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THE TORONTO WORLD

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**Book of  
English  
Proverbs**

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1972  
7676

Including All The Proverbs  
To Be Used in The Toronto  
World's Proverb Contest.

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*The* EDITH *and* LORNE PIERCE  
COLLECTION *of* CANADIANA



*Queen's University at Kingston*

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# THE TORONTO WORLD

## BOOK OF ENGLISH PROVERBS

Including all the Proverbs  
to be used in the

### GREAT PROVERB CONTEST

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**T**HE TORONTO WORLD'S Book of English Proverbs is published as a guide and reference for contestants in the PROVERB CONTEST. It contains a large list of new and popular proverbs and all of the proverbs to be represented in the series of seventy-five pictures. The book has been carefully compiled, but in case any errors have crept into the work contestants will not be held responsible.

The rules governing the Proverb Contest appear on the last pages of this publication, and contestants are requested to read and study them carefully and avoid asking questions already answered therein.

Entry to the Contest may be made at any time before the Contest is closed. To become a contestant it is only necessary to secure the back numbers, which will be supplied at the office of The Toronto World or by mail at one cent for the Daily and five cents for the Sunday. Address all orders and communications to the .

**Contest Manager**  
**The Toronto World, Toronto, Ont.**



# THE TORONTO WORLD

## PROVERB CONTEST

All Answers To The Proverb Problems  
Will Positively Be Found  
In This Book.

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### A

- A bad Jack may have as bad a Jill.
- A bad shift is better than no shift.
- A bad thing never dies.
- A barber learneth to shave by shaving fools.
- A barking dog was never a good hunter.
- A barley-corn is better than a diamond to a cock.
- A basket-justice will do justice right or wrong.
- A beggar can never be bankrupt.
- A beggar payeth a benefit with a louse.
- A bellyful is a bellyful, whether it be meat or drink.
- A bellyful of gluttony will never study willingly.
- A bird is known by its note and a man by his talk.
- A black man is a jewel in a fair woman's eye.
- A blind man gets small good of a lantern.
- A blind man would be glad to see it.
- A blow with a reed makes a noise, but hurts not.
- A blunt wedge will sometimes do what a sharp axe will not.
- A bold attempt is half success.
- A book that remains shut is but a block.
- A bow long bent at last waxeth weak.
- A brave retreat is a brave exploit.
- A broken apothecary, a new doctor.
- A buxom widow must be either married, buried or shut up in a convent.
- A chip of the old block.
- A child may have too much of his mother's blessing.
- A clear conscience can bear any trouble.
- A clear conscience is a sure card.
- A close mouth catcheth no flies.
- A constant guest is never welcome.
- A courageous foe is better than a cowardly friend.
- A cracked bell can never sound well.
- A dead wife's the best goods in a man's house.
- A dead woman will have four to carry her forth.
- A deed done has an end.
- A deformed body may have a beautiful soul.
- A deluge of words and a drop of sense.

See back cover of this book for rules of the Great Contest. Read them carefully.

## ENGLISH PROVERBS

A dinner lubricates business.

A dog's life, hunger and ease.

A drink is shorter than a tale.

A drop of honey catches more flies than a hogshead of vinegar.

67 A drunkard's purse is a bottle.

A drunken night makes a cloudy morning.

A duck will not always dabble in the same gutter.

A dumb man never gets land.

43 A fair booty makes many a thief.

A fair exchange is no robbery.

A fair promise makes a fool merry.

A fair wife without a fortune is a fine house without furniture.

A false report rides post.

A fat kitchen makes a lean will.

A father is a treasure, a brother a comfort, but a friend is both.

A fat purse makes a soft pillow.

A fault once denied is twice committed.

A favour ill placed is great waste.

A feast is not made of mushrooms only.

A feather will point the wind.

A fine diamond may be ill set.

A flow of words is no proof of wisdom.

A flow will have an ebb.

A fool always comes short of his reckoning.

A fool is better than an obstinate man.

A fool is fulsome.

A fool knows more in his own house than a wise man in another's.

A fool loseth his estate before he finds his folly.

A fool may chance to put something into a wise man's head.

A fool may make money, but it requires a wise man to spend it.

A fool wants his cloak in a rainy day.

A fool when he hath spoke hath done all.

A fool will laugh when he is drowning.

A fool will not be foiled.

A fool's heart dances on his lips.

A fool shoots without taking aim.

A fool's speech is a bubble of air.

A fob of fashion is the mercer's friend, the tailor's fool, and his own foe.

A forced kindness deserves no thanks.

57 A fortunate man may be anywhere.

A foul morn may turn to a fair day.

A friend in a corner.

A friend in court is as good as a penny in pocket.

A friend in the market is better than money in the chest.

A friend is best found in adversity.

A friend is never known till needed.

A friend is not so soon gotten as lost.

A friend that you buy with presents will be bought from you.

A friend to everybody is a friend to nobody.

A friend's frown is better than a fool's smile.

## ENGLISH PROVERBS

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A full belly neither fights nor flies well.

A full cup must be carried steadily.

A full purse never lacks friends.

0 31 A half loaf is better than no bread.

A gallant man needs no drums to rouse him.

A gallant man rather despises death than hates life.

A galled horse will not endure the comb.

A generous confession disarms slander.

A gentle hand may lead an elephant by a hair.

A gentleman without an estate is a pudding without suet.

A giant will starve on what will surfeit a dwarf.

A gift long waited for is sold, not given.

A gift with a kind countenance is a double present.

A glutton is never generous.

A golden shield is of great defense.

A golden dart kills where it pleases.

A good bargain is a pick-purse.

A good cause and a good tongue, yet money must carry it.

A good cause makes a stout heart and a strong arm.

A good conscience needs never sneak.

A good day will not mend him, nor a bad day impair him.

A good fame is better than a good face.

11 A good fellow lights his candle at both ends.

A good friend is my nearest relation.

A good friend never offends.

A good hope is better than a bad possession.

A good horse should be seldom spurred.

A good Jack makes a good Jill.

A good key is necessary to enter Paradise.

A good lawyer, an evil neighbor.

A good man dies when a boy goes wrong.

A good man is no more to be feared than a sheep.

A good man will as soon run into a fire as a quarrel.

A good maxim is never out of season.

A good name keeps its lustre in the dark.

A good neighbor, a good morrow.

A good occasion for courtship is, when the widow returns from the funeral.

A good orator must be Cicero and Roscius in one man.

A good paymaster may build St. Paul's.

A good paymaster needs no surety.

A good paymaster never wants workmen.

A good presence is a letter of recommendation.

A good present need not knock long for admittance.

A good reputation is a fair estate.

A good sailor may mistake in a dark night.

A good salad may be a prologue to a bad supper.

A good servant should have good wages.



A good shape is in the shear's mouth.

A good surgeon must have an eagle's eye, a lion's heart, and a lady's hand.

A good take heed will surely speed.

A good tale is none the worse for being twice told.

28 A good thing is soon caught up.

A good tongue is a good weapon.

A good wife and health are a man's best wealth.

A good winter brings a good summer.

A good word is as soon said as a bad one.

A goose-quill is more dangerous than a lion's claw.

A gossip speaks ill of all, and all of her.

A grain of prudence is worth a pound of craft.

A great city, a great solitude.

A great cry and a little wool.

A great dowry is a bed full of brambles.

A great fortune, in the hands of a fool, is a great misfortune.

A great fortune is a great slavery.

A great load of gold is more burthensome than a light load of gravel.

A great man and a great river are often ill neighbors.

A great man's foolish sayings pass for wise ones.

A great mark is soonest hit.

A great reputation is a great charge.

A great ship must have deep water.

A great tree hath a great fall.

A greedy man God hates.

A green winter makes a fat churchyard.

A green wound is soon healed.

A growing youth hath a wolf in his belly.

A handful of common sense is worth a bushel of learning.

A handful of good life is better than a bushel of learning.

41 A handsome bodied man in the face.

A handsome hostess is bad for the purse.

A hangman is a good trade, he doth his work by daylight.

A happy heart makes a blooming visage.

A hare may draw a lion with a golden cord.

A hasty man never wants woe.

A headstrong man and a fool may wear the same cap.

A hober-de-hoy, half a man and half a boy.

A hog in armour is still but a hog.

A hog upon trust, grunts till he's paid for.

A honey tongue, a heart of gall.

A hook's well lost to catch a salmon.

A horn heard soon, though hardly seen.

A horse is neither better nor worse for his trappings.

A horse that will not carry a saddle must have no oats.

A hot May makes a fat churchyard.

A houndless man comes to the best hunting.

A house built by the way-side is either too high or too low.

A house filled with guests is eaten up and ill spoken of.

A house well furnished makes a good housewife.

A huge building, a low foundation.

A hungry dog and a thirsty horse take no heed of blows.

A hungry kite sees a dead horse afar off.

A hungry man is an angry man.

A hungry man sees far.

A jealous man's horns hang in his eyes.

A jest driven too far brings home hate.

A joke never gains an enemy, but often loses a friend.

A journey were better too long than dangerous.

A joyful evening may follow a sorrowful morning.

A king promises, but observes only what he pleases.

A king's favour is no inheritance.

A kiss of the mouth often touches not the heart.

A knave discovered is a great fool.

A knotty piece of timber must have smooth wedges.

A lady of pleasure.

A lamb is as dear to a poor man as an ox to the rich.

A lame traveller should get out betimes.

A lass that has many wooers oft fares the worst.

A lazy sheep thinks its wool heavy.

A leaden sword in an ivory scabbard.

A lean dog gets nothing but fleas.

A liar is a bravo towards God and a coward towards men.

A liar is not believed when he speaks the truth.

A liar must have a good memory.

A lie has no legs, but a scandal has wings.

A lie never lives to be old.

A lie, though it promise good, will do thee harm, and truth will do thee good at last.

A lie with a latchet.

A life of leisure and a life of laziness are two things.

A light Christmas, a heavy sheaf.

A little barrel can give but little meal.

A little body often harbours a great soul.

A little debt makes a debtor, but a great one an enemy.

A little fire burns up a great deal of corn.

A little house well filled, a little land well tilled, and a little wife well willed, are great riches.

A little more breaks a horse's back.

A little neglect may breed great mischief.

A little of everything is nothing in the main.

A little pot is soon hot.



A little ship needs but a little sail.

A little string will tie a little bird.

A little time may be enough to hatch great mischief.

A little trickle of water is a flood to an ant.

A little wind kindleth a great fire, a great one bloweth it out.

A little wit will serve a fortunate man.

A little wood will heat a little oven.

A living dog is better than a dead lion.

A loan should come laughing home.

A long harvest and a little corn.

A long lane, and a fair wind, and always thy heels here away.

A long life hath long miseries.

A long ox and a short horse.

A long tongue has a short hand.

A lord's heart and a beggar's purse agree not.

A low hedge is easily leaped over.

A lord without riches is a soldier without arms.

A mad bull is not to be tied up with a pack-thread.

A madman and a fool are no witnesses.

A man among children will be long a child, a child among men will be soon a man.

A man apt to promise is apt to forget.

A man, as he manages himself, may die old at thirty or young at eighty.

A man at five may be a fool at fifteen.

A man at sixteen will prove a child at sixty.

A man can do no more than he can.

A man can never thrive who has a wasteful wife.

A man cannot live by the air.

A man cannot spin and reel at the same time.

A man gets no thanks for what he loseth at play.

A man has choice to begin love, but not to end it.

A man has often more trouble to digest meat than to get it.

A man is a lion in his own cause.

A man is not good or bad, for one action.

A man is not so soon healed as hurt.

A man, like a watch, is to be valued for his goings.

A man loseth his time, that comes early to a bad bargain.

A man may be an artist, though he have not his tools about him.

A man may bear till his back breaks.

A man may be good in the camp yet bad in the church.

A man may be young in years yet old in hours.

A man may cause his own dog to bite him.

A man may come to market though he don't buy oysters.

A man may hold his tongue in an ill time.

A man may lead his horse to water, but cannot make him drink.

A man may live upon little, but he cannot live upon nothing.

A man may provoke his own dog to bite him.

✓ A man may say too much even upon the best of subjects.

A man must plough with such oxen as he hath.

A man must sell his ware at the rates of the market.

A man need not look in your mouth to see how old you are.

A man of courage never wants weapons.

A man of cruelty is God's enemy.

A man surprised is half beaten.

A man that breaks his word, bids others be false to him.

A man that is warned is half armed.

A man were better be half blind than have both his eyes out.

A man's wealth is his enemy.

A March wisher is never a good fisher.

A mare's shoe and a horse's shoe are both alike.

A merry companion is music in a journey.

A misty morning may have a fine day.

A modest dog seldom grows fat.

A morsel eaten gains no friend.

A mote may choke a man.

A mouse in time may shear a cable asunder.

A mouse must not think to cast a shadow like an elephant.

A nightingale won't sing in a cage.

A pebble and a diamond are alike to a blind man.

✓ A penny-weight of love is worth a pound of law.

A pennyworth of ease is worth a penny.

A place at court is a continual bribe.

A plaster is but small amends for a broken head.

A pleasure is well paid for which is long expected.

✓ A poor excuse is better than none.

✓ A pound of care will not pay an ounce of debt.

✓ A pound of pluck is worth a ton of luck.

A proud man hath many crosses.

A proud mind and a poor purse are ill met.

✓ A purse without money is but a piece of leather.

✓ A quiet tongue shows a wise head.

A race horse is an open sepulchre.

A ragged colt may make a good horse.

A rascal grown rich has lost all his kindred.

✓ A ready way to lose your friend, is to lend him money.

A rich friend is a treasure.

A rich man's foolish sayings pass for wise ones.

A rich mouthful a heavy groan.

A rich rogue, two shirts and a rag.

A right easterly wind is very unkind.

A rod is for the back of him that is void of understanding.

A rolling stone gathers no moss.

A rugged stone grows smooth from hand to hand.

A scabbed horse is good enough for a scabbed knight.

A scald head is soon broken.

A shield of gold is a great defence.

A shoemaker's wife and a smith's mare are always the worst shod.

A short saying oft contains much wisdom.

A slice off a cut loaf is never missed.

A slight gift, small thanks.

A slip of the foot may be soon recovered, but that of the tongue perhaps never.

A small family is soon provided for.

A small hurt in the eye is a great one.

A small matter hurts one that is sore.

A snow year, a rich year.

A soft answer turneth away wrath.

A spur in the head is worth two in the heels.

A stout heart crushes ill luck.

A stroke at every tree, without felling any.

A stumble may prevent a fall.

A taking hand will never want.

A tale, twice told, is cabbage twice sold.

A thief knows a thief, as a wolf knows a wolf.

A thief passes for a gentleman, when stealing has made him rich.

A thin bush is better than no shelter.

A thinking man is always striking out something new.

A thousand probabilities do not make one truth.

A thousand years hence the river will run as it did.

A thread-bare coat as armour proof against highwaymen.

A thread too fine spun will easily break.

A thrush paid for is better than a turkey owing for.

A very proud man is always wilful.

A virtuous woman, though ugly, is the ornament of the house.

A wee mouse may creep under a great corn stack.

A whetstone, though it can't itself cut, makes tools cut.

A whip for a fool and a rod for a school, is always in good season.

A wicked book is the wickeder, because it cannot repent.

A wicked man is his own hell.

A willing mind makes a light foot.

A winter's thunder, a summer's wonder.

A wise lawyer never goes to law himself.



A wise man gets learning from those who have none themselves.

A wise man is a great wonder.

A wise man may be taught by a fool.

A wise man may look ridiculous in the company of fools.

A wise man turns chance into good fortune.

A wise man will make more opportunities than he finds.

A wise man will make tools of what comes to hand.

A wise man's loss is his secret.

A wolf in sheep's clothing.

A woman and a cherry are painted for their own harm.

A woman conceals what she knows not.

A woman's counsel is not worth much, but he that despises it is no wiser than he should be.

A woman's work and washing of dishes, is never at an end.

A woman that paints puts up a bill to let.

A wool-seller knows a wool-buyer.

A word and a stone let go cannot be called back.

A word spoken is an arrow let fly.

A work ill done must be twice done.

A work well begun is half ended.

Absence sharpens love, presence strengthens it.

Abundance, like want, ruins many.

Action is the proper fruit of knowledge.

Admiration is the daughter of ignorance.

Adversity is easier borne than prosperity forgot.

Adversity makes wise, though not rich.

Adversity often leads to prosperity.

After clouds a clear sun.

After the greatest danger is the greatest pleasure.

Age and wedlock we all desire and repent of.

Agree, for the law is costly.

Agues come on horseback, but go away on foot.

Alexander himself was once a crying babe.

All are desirous to win the prize.

All are not friends that speak one fair.

All are not hanged that are condemned.

All commend patience, but none can endure to suffer.

All complain of want of memory, but none of want of judgment.

All death is sudden to the unprepared.

All goeth down Gutter Lane.

All happiness is in the mind.

All her dishes are chafing dishes.

All is fine that is fit.

All is not gold that glitters.

All is not gospel that comes out of his mouth.

All is not lost that is in peril.

All is not won that is put in the purse.

All lay load on the willing horse.

All liquors are not for everyone's liking.

All men naturally have some love of truth.  
All men think their enemies ill men.  
All of heaven and hell is not known till here-  
after.  
All promises are either broken or kept.  
All rivers do what they can for the sea.  
All strive to give to the rich man.  
All sweets are not wholesome.  
All the birds are not on one bush.  
All the craft is in the catching.  
All the joys in the world cannot take one  
grey hair out of our heads.  
All the speed is in the spurs.  
All things are difficult before they are easy.  
All things are easy that are done willingly.  
All things that great men do are well done.  
All tongues are not made of the same flesh.  
All truth is not to be told at all times.  
All women are good; viz., good for some-  
thing, or good for nothing.  
Almost was never hanged.  
An angry man is again angry with himself  
when he returns to reason.  
An angry man opens his mouth and shuts his  
eyes.  
An enemy may chance to give good counsel.  
An evil lesson is soon learned.  
An honest miller hath a golden thumb.  
An hour may destroy what an age was build-  
ing.  
An old ox makes a straight furrow.  
An ounce of fortune is worth a pound of  
forecast.  
An ounce of patience is worth a pound of  
brains.  
An ounce of wisdom is worth a pound of wit.  
An ounce of wit that's bought is worth a  
pound that's taught.  
April and May are the key of all the year.  
April showers bring forth May flowers.  
Art helps nature and experience art.  
Art must be deluded by art.  
As a jewel of gold in a hog's snout, so is a  
fair woman without virtue.  
As a man lives, so shall he die, as a tree falls,  
so shall it lie.  
As bright as a new pin.  
As brown as a berry.  
As clean as a whistle.  
As cross as two sticks.  
As dull as a beetle.  
As flat as a pancake.  
As good have no time, as make no good use  
of it.  
As good steal the horse, as look over the  
hedge.  
As good water goes by the mill as drives it.  
As merry as the day is long.  
As red as a rose.  
As soon as you have drank, turn your back  
upon the spring.  
As the bell clinks, so the fool thinks.

As the days lengthen, so the cold strengthens.

As the fool thinks, the bell clinks.

As the touchstone trieth gold, so gold trieth men.

As the wind blows, seek your shelter.

As you brew, so drink.

As you salute, you will be saluted.

As your wedding ring wears, you'll wear off your cares.

Ashes fly back in the face of him that throws them.

Ask but enough, and you may lower the price as you list.

Ask the mother, if the child be like his father.

Ask thy purse what thou shouldest buy.

At a great bargain make a pause.

At court, every one for himself.

At open doors dogs come in.

At the end of the game you'll see who's the winner.

Avarice increases with wealth.

Away goes the devil when he finds the door shut against him.

## B

Bad excuses are worse than none.

Bashfulness is an enemy to poverty.

Be a father to virtue, but a father-in-law to vice.

Beauty is a good client.

Be bold, but not too bold.

Before you cross the river look out for the crocodile.

Be good and refrain not to be good.

Be good and you will be lonesome.

Be just to all, but trust not all.

Be not a baker if your head be of butter.

Be not hasty to outbid another.

Be slow to promise, quick to perform.

Better a bad excuse than none at all.

Better a blush in the face than a spot in the heart.

Better a good dinner than a fine coat.

Better a little fire to warm us, than a great one to burn us.

Better a mouse in the pot than no flesh at all.

Better an egg in peace than an ox in war.

Better be envied than pitied.

Better bend the neck than bruise the forehead.

Better be poor and live, than rich and perish.

Better be poor than wicked.

Better be the head of an ass, than the tail of a horse.

Better be the head of a pike, than the tail of a sturgeon.

Better be up to the ankles than over head and ears.

Better bow than break.

Better break your word than do worse in keeping it.



- 10 48 Better buy than borrow.  
Better cut the shoe than pinch the foot.  
Better die a beggar, than live a beggar.  
Better direct well than work hard.  
Better do it, than wish it done.  
Better eat grey bread in your youth than in  
your age.  
Better fare hard with good men, than feast  
with bad.  
Better give a shilling than lend half a crown.  
Better give the wool than the whole sheep.  
Better go about than be drowned.  
Better go away longing than loathing.  
Better go to bed supperless than rise in debt.  
Better go to heaven in rags than to hell in  
embroidery.  
Better God than gold.  
Better good afar off than ill at hand.  
Better have it than hear of it.  
Better hazard once than be always in fear.  
Better keep peace than make peace.  
Better live in a poor hovel than be buried in  
a rich sepulchre.  
Better one word in time than two afterwards.  
Better ride an ass that carries us than a horse  
that throws us.  
Better ride a poor horse than go afoot.  
Better sell than live poorly.  
Better some of a pudding than none of a pie.  
Better spared than ill spent.  
Better spent than spared.  
Better stretch your hand than vour neck.  
Better suffer a great evil than do a little one.  
Better suffer ill than do ill.  
Better ten guilty escape than one innocent  
man suffer.  
Better the foot slip than the tongue.  
Better the last smile than the first laughter.  
Better to be a "has been" than a "might  
have been."  
Better to do well late than never.  
Better to have than to wish.  
Better turn than burn.  
110 22 Better two losses than one sorrow.  
Better unborn than unbred.  
Better untaught than ill taught.  
Between the devil and the deep sea.  
Beware of little expense.  
Beware of the geese when the fox preaches.  
Beware of vinegar made of sweet wine.  
Bind so as you may unbind.  
Black will take no other color.  
Blessed is he who has found his work.  
Blind men should not judge of colours.  
Bloody and deceitful men dig their own  
graves.  
Blow first, and sip afterwards.  
Blow not against the hurricane.  
Borrow not too much upon time to come.  
Both anger and haste hinder good counsel.  
Bought friends are not friends in deed.  
Bread is the staff of life.

Brave actions never want a trumpet.  
Brevity is a great praise of eloquence.  
Bribes throw dust into cunning men's eyes.  
Bribes will enter without knocking.  
Business and action strengthens the brain,  
but to much study weakens it.  
Business is the salt of life.  
Business makes a man as well as tries him.  
Busy folks are always meddling.  
Buyers want an hundred eyes, sellers none.  
Buying and selling is but winning and losing.  
By doing nothing we learn to do ill.  
By ignorance we mistake, and by mistakes  
we learn.  
By others' faults wise men correct their own.  
By requiting one friend we invite many.  
By wisdom peace, by peace plenty.

C

Calamity is the touchstone of a brave mind.  
Call a spade a spade.  
Care will kill a cat.  
Careless shepherds make many a feast for  
the wolf.  
Cast no dirt into the well that gives you  
water.  
Chains of gold are stronger than chains of  
iron.  
Change of weather is the discourse of fools.  
Character is the diamond that scratches  
every other stone.  
Charity covers a multitude of sins.  
Choose a wife rather by your ear than your  
eye.  
Church work goes on slowly.  
Circumstances alter cases.  
Cities are taken by the ears.  
Clean hands want no washbowl.  
Cleanliness is next to godliness.  
Cloudy mornings may turn to clear evenings.  
Cobblers and tinkers are the best ale-  
drinkers.  
Command your man and do it yourself.  
Common sense is the growth of all countries.  
Compliments cost nothing, yet many pay  
dear for them.  
Conduct and courage lead to honour.  
Confess and be hanged.  
Confess debt, and beg days.  
Confidence is the companion of success.  
Confine your tongue, lest it confine you.  
Conscience cannot be compelled.  
Consider well, and oft, why thou camest into  
this world, and how soon thou must go out  
of it.  
Consideration is the parent of wisdom.  
Constant complaints never get pity.  
Constant occupation prevents temptation.  
Contempt is the sharpest reproof.  
Content lodges oftener in cottages than pal-  
aces.

Contentment does not mean stagnation.  
Continual cheerfulness is a sign of wisdom.  
Conversation teaches more than meditation.  
Cooks are not to be taught in their own kitchen.  
Cool words scald not the tongue.  
Corn is not to be gather'd in the blade, but the ear.  
Courage ought to have eyes as well as arms.  
Cowards run the greatest danger of any men in a battle.  
Craft must have clothes, but truth must go naked.  
Criminals are punished that others may be amended.  
Critics are brushers of other men's clothes.  
Crooked by education, is never made straight by education.  
Crosses are ladders to heaven.  
Cut your coat according to your cloth.

**D**

Danger and delight grow on one stock.  
Danger past, God is forgotten.  
Death devours lambs as well as sheep.  
Deather rather frees us from ills than robs us of our goods.  
Death's day is doom's day.  
Debt is the worst poverty.  
Deceit is in haste, but honesty can wait a fair leisure.  
Decency and decorum are not pride.  
Deeds are males, and words are but females.  
Delays increase desires, and sometimes extinguish them.  
Deliberate slowly, execute promptly.  
Deliberating is not delaying.  
Deliver your words not by number, but by weight.  
Dependence is a poor trade.  
Deserve success, and you shall command it.  
Destroy the lion while he is but a whelp.  
Different sores must have different salves.  
Difficulty makes desire.  
Difficulties give way to diligence.  
Dirt is dirtiest upon the fairest spots.  
Dispute the price, but don't dispute the weight.  
Do as little as you can to repent of.  
Do as you're bidden, and you'll never bear blame.  
Do business, but be not a slave to it.  
Do good, and then do it again.  
Do good, if you expect to receive it.  
Dogs gnaw bones because they cannot swallow them.  
Dogs ought to bark before they bite.  
Do not close a letter without reading it, nor drink water without seeing it.  
Do the likeliest, and hope the best.  
Do what thou ought, let come what may.  
Don't care has no house.



Don't climb the hill until you cross the valley.

Don't have too many irons in the fire, or some will be sure to burn.

Don't let the stream of your life be a murmuring stream.

Don't measure other people's corn by your own bushel.

Don't pick me up before I fall down.

Don't prophesy before you know.

Don't put too many eggs under one hen.

Doth the moon care for the barking dog?

Doubt is a rudderless boat.

Doubt is the key of knowledge.

Drawn wells are seldom dry.

Drawn wells have sweetest water.

Drinking water neither makes a man sick, nor in debt, nor his wife a widow.

Drive not a second nail till the first be clinched.

Drive not too many ploughs at once; some will make foul work.

Drop by drop fills the tub.

Dry bread at home is better than roast meat abroad.

Dry bread is better wit love than a fat capon with fear.

Dry overhead, happy.

Duty—what others ought to do.

## E

Eat-well is drink-well's brother.

Eaten bread is forgotten.

Education begins a gentleman, conversation completes him.

Education polishes good natures, and correcteth bad ones.

Enjoy your little while the fool seeks for more.

Enough is a feast, too much a vanity.

Enough to keep the wolf from the door.

Eternity has no grey hairs.

Even a pin is good for something, and that's more than you are.

Even a single hair casts its shadow.

Even exchange is no robbery.

Even the horse with his four feet occasionally stumbles.

Every ass loves to hear himself bray.

Every bird likes its own nest the best.

Every block will not make a mercury.

Every cross hath its inscription.

Every day brings a new light.

Every day hath its night, every weal its woe.

Every dog is valiant at his own door.

Every fool can find faults that a great many wise men can't remedy.

Every horse thinks his own pack heaviest.

Every Jack must have his Jill.

Every light is not the sun.

Every man for himself, and God for us all.

Every man hath his hobby horse.

Every man hath a fool in his sleeve.

Every man hath his lot.

Every man hath his weak side.

Every man is a fool or a physician at forty.

Every man is best known to himself.

Every man is the architect of his own fortune.

Every man is the son of his own works.

Every man must eat a peck of dirt before he dies.

Every man's neighbor is his looking-glass.

Every may-be hath a may-be-not.

Every miller draws the water to his own mill.

Every mote doth not blind a man.

Every one as they like, as the woman said when she kissed the cow.

Every one can keep house better than her mother till she trieth.

Everyone must row with the oars he has.

Every one should sweep before his own door.

Every one thinks himself able to advise another.

Every poor man is counted a fool.

Every reed will not make a pipe.

Every slip is not a fall.

Every thing hath its time, and that time must be watched.

Every thing is worse for wearing.

Every tide hath its ebb.

Every why has a wherefore.

Example is better than precept.

Evil comes to us by ells and goes away by inches.

Expect nothing from him who promises a great deal.

Experience is the father of wisdom, and memory the mother.

Experience is the great baffler of speculation.

Experience is the mistress of fools.

Experience is the mother of science.

Experience keeps a dear school, but fools learn in no other.

Experience teacheth fools; and he is a great one that will not learn by it.

Experience without learning is better than learning without experience.

Extremes meet.

## F

Facts are stubborn things.

Fair and softly goes far in a day.

Fair fall truth and daylight.

Fair is not fair, but that which pleaseth.

Fair words and foul play cheat both young and old.

Fair words break no bone, but foul words many a one.

Fair words please fools.

False folk should have many witnesses.

False friends are worse than open enemies.

Falsehood stings those who meddle with it.  
Fame is a magnifying glass.  
Fame is a thin shadow of eternity.  
Fame is the perfume of heroic deeds.  
Fame, like a river, is narrowest at its source  
and broadest afar off.  
Fancy may kill or cure.  
Fast bind, fast find.  
Fat housekeepers make lean executors.  
Fate leads the willing, but drives the stub-  
born.  
Faults are thick where love is thin.  
Faults that are rich are fair.  
Fear is one part of prudence.  
Fear is stronger than love.  
Feasting is the physician's harvest.  
Feasting makes no friendship.  
February makes a bridge, and March  
breaks it.  
Feed sparingly and defy the physician.  
Few leaves and bad fruit.  
Few take wives for God's sake, or for fair  
looks.  
Few words are best.  
Few words, many deeds.  
Figures can be made to prove anything.  
Fine clothes oftentimes hide a base descent.  
Fire and water are good servants, but bad  
masters.  
Fire and water are not more necessary than  
friends are.  
Fire in flax will smoke.  
First deserve, then desire.  
Fish and guests smell at three days old.  
Flattery is the food of fools.  
Follow the wise few rather than the vulgar  
many.  
Fools and obstinate men make lawyers rich.  
Fools and philosophers were made out of the  
same metal.  
Fools go in crowds.  
Fools grow without watering.  
Fool's haste is no speed.  
Fools laugh at their own sport.  
Fools live poor to die rich.  
Fools refuse favours.  
Fools set stools for wise men to stumble at.  
Fools tie knots, and wise men loose them.  
Fools will be meddling.  
For mad words deaf ears.  
For my own pleasure, as the man said when  
he struck his wife.  
For one rich man that is content there are a  
hundred that are not.  
Forewarned, forearmed.  
Forbearance is no acquittance.  
Forbid a fool a thing, and he'll do.  
Forget others' faults by remembering your  
own.  
Forgive and forget.  
Fortune and misfortune are two buckets in  
the well.



Fortune dreads the brave, and is only terrible to the coward.

Fortune sometimes favours those whom she afterwards destroys.

Friends are the nearest relations.

Friends may meet, but mountains never greet.

Friendship is not to be bought at a fair.

Friendship is stronger than kindred.

Friendship is the most sacred of all moral bonds.

Friendship that flames goes out in a flash.

Friendships multiply joys, and divide griefs.

Frightening a bird is not the way to catch it.

From fame to infamy is a beaten road.

From nothing, nothing can come.

## G

Gain got by a lie will burn one's fingers.

Game is cheaper in the market than in the fields and woods.

Garlands are not for every brow.

Gentry sent to market will not buy one bushel of corn.

Getting out well is a quarter of the journey.

Gifts make beggars bold.

Give him but rope enough and he'll hang himself.

Give the devil his due.

Give thy purse rather than thy time.

Gluttony kills more than the sword.

God arms the harmless.

God deliver me from a man of one book.

God deprives him of bread who likes not his drink.

God, from a beautiful necessity, is love.

God heals, and the doctor gets the fee.

God help the poor, for the rich can help themselves.

God loves good accounts.

God made you an honest man than your father.

God sends cold after clothes.

God sends corn and the devil mars the sack.

Gold is worth gold.

Good counsel never comes amiss.

Good counsel has no price.

Good language cures great sores.

Good lawyers are bad neighbors.

Good luck reaches farther than long arms.

Good men must die, but death cannot kill their names.

Good pastures make fat sheep.

Good watch prevents misfortune.

Good weight and measure is heaven's treasure.

Good wits jump.

Good words cool more than cold water.

Good words cost no more than bad.

Good words cost nothing, but are worth much.

Go to another door, for this will not be opened.

Gossiping and lying go together.

Grasp no more than thy hand will hold.

Great gifts are for great men.

Great hopes make great men.

Great weights may hang on small wires.

Grumbling makes the loaf no larger.

## H

"Had I Thought" died in the poorhouse.

Hair by hair the head grows bald.

Halt not before a cripple.

Happy is he that serveth the happy.

Happy is the bride the sun shines on and the corpse the rain rains on.

Happy's the wooing, that's not long in doing.

Harvest comes not every day, though it comes every year.

Hatred is blind as well as love.

Have a care of a silent dog and a still water.

He bears misery best that hides it most.

He burns his candle at both ends.

He cannot speak well, that cannot hold his tongue.

He can put two and two together.

He cares not whose child cry, so his laugh.

He has let the cat out of the bag.

He has two strings to one bow.

He is lifeless that is faultless.

He is rich that is satisfied.

He is richest who is contented with least; for content is the wealth of a nation.

He is wise that is honest.

Help the lame dog over the stile.

He that always complains is never pitied.

He that asketh a courtesy promiseth a kindness.

He that bites on every weed may light on poison.

He that blows in the dust fills his own eyes.

He that bringeth a present findeth the door open.

He that brings up his son to nothing breeds a thief.

He that builds castles in the air will soon have no land.

He that follows nature is never out of his way.

He that gets out of debt grows rich.

He that gives his heart will not deny his money.

He that goes softly goes safely.

He that has no heart ought to have heels.

He that hath no money needeth no purse.

He that hath nothing is not contented.

He that hides can find.

He that hires the horse must ride before.

He that his money lends loses both coin and friends.

He that is a wise man by day is no fool by night.

He that is carried down the torrent catcheth at everything.

He that is too proud to ask is too good to receive.

He that kills a man when he's drunk must be hang'd when he's sober.

He that lives long suffers much.

He that makes one basket may make a hundred.

He that pays last never pays twice.

He that peeps through a keyhole may see what will vex him.

He that plants trees loves others besides himself.

He that promises too much means nothing.

He that returns a good for evil obtains the victory.

He that runs fast will not run long.

He that runs fastest gets most ground.

He that runs fastest gets the ring.

He that scattereth thorns must not go bare-footed.

He that serves everybody is paid by nobody.

He that serves the public obliges nobody.

He that serves well needs not be afraid to ask his wages.

He that slays shall be slain.

He that sows iniquity shall reap sorrow.

He that spares the bad injures the good.

He that strays in the valley shall never get over the hill.

He that stumbles and falls not quite gains a step.

He that teaches himself has a fool for his master.

He that walketh with the virtuous is one of them.

He that wants health wants everything.

He that wants hope is the poorest man alive.

He that will conquer must fight.

He that will deceive the fox must rise betimes.

He that will eat the kernel must crack the nut.

He that will outwit the fox must rise betimes

He that will steal an egg will steal an ox.

He that would live in peace and rest, must hear, and see and say the best.

He that would please all, and himself too, undertakes what he cannot do.

He that's afraid of wounds must not come nigh a battle.

He that's ill to himself will be good to nobody.

He who avoids the temptation avoids the sin.

He who deals with a blockhead will have need of much brains.

He who depends on another, dines ill and sups worse.

He who divides gets the worst share.



He who does not advance, recedes.

He who does not honour his wife dishonours himself.

He who doth not rise early never does a good day's work.

He who eats the meat, let him pick the bone.

He who fears death has already lost the life he covets.

He who gives to the public gives to none.

He who has but one coat cannot lend it.

He who has no shame has no conscience.

He who has to deal with a blockhead has need of much brains.

He who is giddy thinks the world turns round.

He who pitches too high won't get through his song.

He who tries to stand in two boats at once runs great risk of drowning.

He's a friend to none that is a friend to all.

He's a good friend that speaks well of us behind our backs.

He's a good man whom fortune makes better.

He's a wise man that can wear poverty decently.

He's a wise man who can make a friend of a foe.

Health and wealth create beauty.

Health without wealth is half a sickness.

Hear twice before you speak once.

High regions are never without storms.

High winds blow on high hills.

Honest men fear neither the light nor the dark.

Honey is too good for a bear.

Honour and profit will not keep in one sack.

Honour buys no beef in the market.

Honours change manners.

Hope is a lover's staff.

Hope is a waking man's dream.

Hope is as cheap as despair.

Hope long deferred maketh the heart sick.

Hopes and fears chequer human life.

Hunger fetches the wolf out of the woods.

Hunger finds no fault with the cookery.

Hunger is the best sauce.

Hunger will break through stone walls.

Hungry men think the cook lazy.

## I

"I can't" is a poor servant.

If money be not thy servant, it will be thy master.

If the brain sows not corn, it plants thistles.

If the channel's too small, the water must break out.

If the counsel be good, no matter who gave it.

If the eye do not admire, the heart will not desire.

If the old dog barks he gives counsel.

If the pills were pleasant, they would not want gilding.

If the walls were adamant, gold would take the town.

If to-day will not, to-morrow may.

If wise men never erred it would go hard with the fool.

If you can't get it by the head take it by the tail.

If you say nothing, nobody will repeat it.

Ill kings make many good laws.

Ill luck is good for something.

Ill luck is worse than found money.

Ill manners produce good laws.

Ill will never said well.

Ill wounds may be cured, but not ill names.

In a calm sea every man is a pilot.

In a night's time springs up a mushroom.

In at one ear, and out at the other.

In every fault there is folly.

In the coldest flint there is hot fire.

In the company of strangers, silence is safe.

In the end things will mend.

In the forehead and the eye, the lecture of the mind doth lie.

In the grave, dust and bones jostle not for the wall.

Industry is Fortune's right hand, and frugality her left.

Ingratitude is the daughter of pride.

Ingratitude makes the receiver worse, but the benefactor better.

Innocence is no protection.

Innocent actions carry their warrant with them.

Innovations are dangerous.

Insolence is Pride when her mask is pulled off.

Insolence puts an end to friendship.

It is a bad game when nobody wins.

It is a foolish sheep that makes the wolf his confessor.

It is a good friend that is always giving, though it be ever so little.

It is a great journey to life's end.

It is a hard battle where none escapes.

It is a long lane that has no turning.

It is a mark of wisdom to dislike folly.

It is an ill bird that betrays its own nest.

It is an ill dog that is not worth the whistling.

It is an ill guest that never drinks to his host.

It is as hard a thing as to sail over the sea in an egg-shell.

It is bad to lean against a falling wall.

It is better to be loved than honoured.

It is easier to prevent ill habits than to break them.

It is easy to poke another man's fire.

It is good sheltering under an old hedge.

It is more easy to threaten than to kill.

It is more painful to do nothing than something.

It is not a sin to sell dear, but it is to make ill measure.

It is not best to swap horses when crossing a stream.

It is no easy matter to bear prosperity decently.

It is not easy to straight in the oak the crook that grew in the sapling.

It isn't the biggest trees that bear the most fruit.

It is possible for a ram to kill a butcher.

It is pride, not nature, that craves much.

It is right to put everything to its proper use.

It is safer to commend the dead than the living.

It is safer to hear and take counsel than to give it.

It is the clerk makes the justice.

It is the property of fools to be always judging.

It is time enough to cry oh! when you are hurt.

It is well to swim with one foot on the ground.

It is wit to pick a lock, but wisdom to let it alone.

It is working that makes a workman.

It ought to be a good tale that is twice told.

It's but a copy of its countenance.

It's not how long, but how well we live.

## J

Jack is as good as Jill.

Jack Nokes and Tom Stiles.

Jack roast beef.

Jack Sprat he loved no fat, and his wife she lov'd no lean, and so betwixt them both they lick'd the platterns clean.

Jack would wipe his nose if he had it.

Jesters do oft prove prophets.

Jesting lies bring serious sorrows.

Jest not with the eye nor religion.

Jests are seldom good the first time, but the second time distasteful.

Jests, like sweetmeats, have often sour sauce.

Job was not so miserable in his sufferings, as happy in his patience.

Jocular slanders often prove serious injuries.

Joy surfeited turns to sorrow.

## K

Knowledge is power.

Kindness is the noblest weapon to conquer with.

Knowledge is a second light, and hath bright eyes.

Knowledge is a treasure, but practice is the key to it.

Knowledge is silver among the poor, gold among the nobles, and a jewel among princes.

Knowledge comes, but wisdom lingers.



L

Land was never lost for want of an heir.

Last in bed, best heard.

Law cannot persuade where it cannot punish.

Laws catch flies, but let hornets go free.

Lean liberty is better than fat slavery.

Learn wisdom by the follies of others.

Let every pedlar carry his own burden.

Let not your tongue run away with your brains.

Let us not throw the rope after the bucket.

Let women spin, and not preach.

Let your purse be your master.

Liars should have good memories.

Life and misery began together.

Life is what we make it.

Life would be too smooth if it had no rubs in it.

Lightly come, lightly go.

Like dogs that snarl about a bone, and play together when they've none.

Like father, like son.

Likeness is the mother of love.

Little fish are sweet.

Little space between right and wrong.

Little bodies have great souls.

Little goods, little care.

Little pigeons can carry great messages.

Little said is soon amended.

Little things are pretty.

Little things attract light minds.

Little winning makes a heavy purse.

Little wit in the head makes much work for the feet.

Live not upon the opinion of other men.

Live to learn and you will learn to live.

Long absent, soon forgotten.

Long is the arm of the needy.

Long life hath long misery.

Look before you leap.

Lookers-on see more than players.

Look high, and fall low.

Look into the heart and write.

Losers are always in the wrong.

Lost time is never found again.

Love delights in praise.

Love heats the brain, and anger makes a poet.

Love is the loadstone of love.

Love is the touchstone of virtue.

Love is without prudence, and anger without counsels.

Love makes fools wits, and wits fools.

Love of wit makes no man rich.

Love rules his kingdom without a sword.

Love sees no faults.

Love thy neighbor, but pull not down thy hedge.

Love will creep where it cannot go.

Lowly sit, richly warm.

Lucky men are as rare as white cows.

M

Maidens should be mild and meek, swift to hear, and slow to speak.

Make hay while the sun shines.

Make not balks of good ground.

Make not even the devil blacker than he is.

Make not your sauce till you have caught the fish.

Make the best and leave the rest.

Malice hath a sharp sight and a strong memory.

Malice seldom wants a mark to shoot at.

Many a drop of broth is made in an old pot.

Many a true word is spoken in jest.

Many an honest man stands in need of help that has not the face to beg it.

Many blame the wife for their own thriftless life.

Many can bear adversity, but few contempt.

Many kiss the child for the nurse's sake.

Many kiss the hands they wish to see cut off.

Many would be cowards if they had courage enough.

Many would have been worse, if their estates had been better.

March birds are best.

March winds and April showers bring forth May flowers.

Masters are mostly the greatest servants in the house.

Mean men admire wealth, great men glory.

Measure is a treasure.

Measure not others' corn by your own bushel.

Men apt to promise are apt to forget.

Men never think their fortunes too great, nor their wit too little.

Men work but slowly that have poor wages.

Merry meet, merry part.

Might overcomes right.

Mirth and mischief are two things.

Mirth and motion prolong life.

Mischiefs come by the pound, and go away by the ounce.

Misfortunes seldom come alone.

Misfortunes that can't be avoided, must be sweetened.

Misfortunes when asleep, are not to be awakened.

Moderation in prosperity argues a great mind.

Money makes not so many true friends as real enemies.

More cost than worship.

More flies are taken with a drop of honey than a ton of vinegar.

More fools, than fiddler.

More fuel, more fire.

More have repented of speech than of silence.

More nice, than wise.

Most things have two handles, a wise man takes hold of the best.

Much corn lies under the straw that is not seen.

Much laughter, little wit.

Much water goes by the mill the miller knows not of.

Much would have more, and lost all.

Much would have more, but often meets with less.

Muddy springs will have muddy streams.

My house is my castle.

My son, put money in thy purse and then keep it.

**N**

21 Nature is beyond all teaching.

Nature must obey necessity.

Nature takes as much pains in the forming of a beggar as an emperor.

Nature teaches us to love our friends, but religion our enemies.

Nature, time and patience are the three great physicians.

Need makes virtue.

Need will have its course.

Neither heat nor cold abides always in the sky.

Neither lead nor drive.

Never be weary of well-doing. ✓

Never is a long term.

Never light your candle at both ends.

Never pleasure without repentance.

Never quit certainty for hope.

Never sign a writing until you have read it, nor drink wine till you have seen it.

Never sound the trumpet of your own praise.

Never trust to another what you should do yourself.

Never trust to fine promises.

Never was cat or dog drowned, that could but see the shore.

New grief awakens the old.

New honours change manners.

New things are most looked at.

Nice eaters seldom meet with a good dinner.

Night is the mother of thought.

Nimble thought can jump both sea and land.

Nip the briar in the bud.

No advice like a father's.

No and yes often cause long disputes.

No autumn fruit without spring blossom.

No doors are shut against honest grey hairs.

No feast like a miser's.

No fine clothes can hide the clown.

No friend like a bosom friend; as the man said when he pulled out a louse.

No honest man ever repented of his honesty.

No larder but hath its mice.

No legacy is so rich as honesty.

No man is born wise or learned.

No man is worse for knowing the worst of himself.

No man may be both accuser and judge.



No mill no meal.

No one knows the weight of another's burden.

No one will repeat the matter if it be not said.

No penny, no pardon.

No receiver, no thief.

No remedy but patience.

No safe wading in an unknown water.

No secrets but between two.

No sport, no pie.

No striving against the stream.

No sweet without some sweat.

No termination without determination.

No trials, no triumphs.

No vice but hath its patron.

No weather's ill if the wind be still.

Nobody calls himself a rogue.

Nobody hath too much prudence or virtue.

Nobody is fond of fading flowers.

Nobody so like an honest man as an arrant knave.

None but a wise man can employ leisure well.

None but cats and dogs are allowed to quarrel in my house.

None but fools and fiddlers sing at their meat.

None can pray well but he that lives well.

Nothing is more precious than time, yet nothing less valued.

Nothing is profitable which is dishonest.

Nothing sharpens sight like envy.

Nothing to be got without pains, but poverty.

Novelty always appears handsome.

O

Obedience is more seen in little things than in great.

Oh wad some Power the giftie gie us

To see oursel's as ithers see us.

Old lady Backbite is the devil's aunt.

Old men go to death, but death comes to young men.

Old women's gold is not ugly.

Old young and old long.

One barber shaves not so close, but another finds work.

One cannot ride in two boats.

One day of pleasure is worth two of sorrow.

One hour to-day is worth two to-morrow.

One kindness is the price of another. *no go*

One lie makes many.

One man's breath's another man's death.

One man's company is no company.

One man's fault is another man's lesson.

One nail drives another.

One of these days is none of these days.

One ounce of discretion is worth a pound of wit.

One saddle is enough for one horse.

One's too few, three too many.

Only that which is honestly got is gain.

Open rebuke is better than secret hatred.  
Opportunities do not wait.  
Opportunities neglected are lost.  
Oppression causeth rebellion.  
Oppression will make a wise man mad.  
Out before day, in before night.  
Our pleasures are imagined, but our griefs  
are all real.  
Out of debt, out of danger.  
Out of sight, out of mind.  
Over shoes, over boots.  
Over the greatest beauty hangs the greatest  
ruin.

P

Patience, money and time bring all things to  
pass.  
Patience under old injuries invites new ones.  
Patience with poverty is all a poor man's  
remedy.  
Pay what you owe, and what you're worth  
you'll know.  
Peace flourishes when reason rules.  
Penny in pocket is a good companion.  
People will talk and dogs will bark at the  
moon.  
Perfect love never settled in a light head.  
Plants too often removed will not thrive.  
Play at small games rather than stand out.  
Pleasant hours fly fast.  
Pleasures, while they flatter, sting.  
Pluck not a courtesy in the bud, before it is  
ripe.  
Possession is nine points of the law.  
Pour not water on a drowned mouse.  
Poverty is a complication of evils.  
Poverty is not a shame, but the being  
ashamed of it is.  
Poverty is the mother of all arts.  
Poverty is the mother of health.  
Poverty makes a man acquainted with  
strange bedfellows.  
Poverty trieth friends.  
Practice makes good men better, and bad  
men worse.  
Praise not the day before the night.  
Prefer loss to unjust gain.  
Pride and poverty are ill met, yet often to-  
gether.  
Pride feels no cold.  
Pride is the sworn enemy to content.  
Pride may lurk under a threadbare cloak.  
Procrastination is the thief of time.  
Promises are like pie-crust, made to be  
broken.  
Provide for the worst, the best will save  
itself.  
Providence is better than rent.  
Purposing without performing is mere fool-  
ing.

R

Reading between the lines.  
Reading makes a full man.  
Reason governs the wise man and cudgels the fool.  
Rebuke with soft words and hard arguments.  
Rebukes ought not to have a grain more of salt than of sugar.  
Reputation is commonly measured by the acre.  
Reputation is often got without merit, and lost without fault.  
Reproof never does a wise man harm.  
Riches have wings.  
Riches rule the roast.  
Riches serve a wise man, but command a fool.  
Riches well got and well used are a great blessing.  
Right mixture makes good mortar.  
Run not from one extreme to another.

S

Satan promises the best and pays the worst.  
Save yourself pains by taking pains.  
Second thoughts are best.  
Self-preservation is the first law of nature.  
Seldom seen, soon forgotten.  
Set not your loaf in till the oven's hot.  
Sharp stomachs make short devotion.  
She who is born handsome is born married.  
Short reckonings are soon cleared.  
Short reckonings make long friends.  
Sickness is felt, but health not at all.  
Sickness tells us what we are.  
Six awls make a shoemaker.  
Slander expires at a good woman's door.  
Sleep without supping, and wake without owing.  
Sloth is the key to poverty.  
Small birds must have meat.  
Small rain lays great dust.  
Smoke, raining into the house, and a scolding wife, will make a man run out of doors.  
So many men, so many minds.  
Soft words are hard arguments.  
Soft words hurt not the mouth.  
Soldiers are martyrs to ambition.  
Soldiers in peace are like chimneys in summer.  
Some are always busy, and never do anything.  
Some are atheists only in fair weather.  
Some are wise, and some are otherwise.  
Some rain, some rest.  
Soon got, soon spent.  
Soon hot, soon cold.  
Soon learnt, soon forgotten.  
Soon ripe, soon rotten.  
Sooner said than done.  
Sorrow comes unsent for.

Spare the rod and spoil the child.  
Spare well and spend well.  
Spare when you are young, and spend when  
you are old.  
Sparrows fight for corn which is none of  
their own.  
Speak the truth and shame the devil.  
Speak well, even to bad men.  
Speak well of the dead.  
Speak well of your friend; of your enemy say  
nothing.  
Speak what you will, bad men will turn it ill.  
Speak when you are spoke to; come when  
you are called.  
Speech is silver, silence is golden.  
Speech is the gift of all, but thought of few.  
Speech is the picture of the mind.  
Speedy execution is the mother of good for-  
tune.  
Spend, and God will send.  
Spread the table, and contention will cease.  
Step after step the ladder is ascended.  
Step by step one gets to Rome.  
Step by step the ladder is ascended.  
Stretch your arm no further than your sleeve  
will reach.  
Stretch your legs according to your coverlet.  
Strike while the iron is hot.  
Strive not against the stream.  
Study sickness while you are well.  
Success is never blamed.  
Success makes a fool seem wise.  
Sudden passions are hard to be managed.  
Sue a beggar and get a louse.  
Suffering for a friend doubleth the friendship.  
Sweep before your own door.

### T

Tailors and writers must mind the fashion.  
Take a cow by her horns and a man by his  
word.  
Take care of the pence, the pounds will take  
care of themselves.  
Take the will for the deed.  
Take time by the forelock.  
Talk is but talk; but 'tis money that buys  
land.  
Talk of the devil, and he'll either come or  
send.  
Teach thy tongue to say, "I do not know."  
That war is only just which is necessary.  
That which was bitter to endure may be  
sweet to remember.  
The abundance of money ruins youth.  
The abuse of riches is worse than the want  
of them.  
The accused is not guilty till he is convicted.  
The back door robbeth the house.  
The bear wants a tail, and cannot be lion.  
The beggar envies the beggar.  
The best advice is—don't give any.  
The best friends are in the purse.



- The best mirror is an old friend.  
The best things are worst to come by.  
The better the day, the better the deed.  
The better natured, the sooner undone.  
The blind horse is the hardiest.  
The blind man's wife needs no painting.  
The body is the workhouse of the soul.  
The boughs that bear most hang lowest.  
The brain that sows not corn plants thistles.  
The burden which one likes is not felt.  
The burnt child dreads the fire.  
The cat and dog may kiss, yet are none the better friends.  
The cat is hungry when a crust contents her.  
The child hath a red tongue, like its father.  
The course of true love never did run smooth.  
The crow thinks her own bird fairest.  
The cure may be worse than the disease.  
The danger past, and God forgotten.  
The devil is never nearer than when we are talking of him.  
The discontented man finds no easy chair.  
The doctor seldom takes physic.  
The dog wags his tail not for you, but for the bread.  
The early sower never borrows of the late.  
The earth produces all things and receives all again.  
The empty vessel makes the greatest sound.  
The end crowns all.  
The evening crowns the day.  
The eye of the master makes the horse fat.  
The fairest silk is soonest stained.  
The farther in, the deeper.  
The farthest way about is the nearest way home.  
The fiddle makes the feast.  
The first thing a poor gentleman calls for in the morning is a needle and thread.  
The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God.  
The fool runs away while his house is burning.  
The fool wonders, the wise man asks.  
The fox may grow grey, but never good.  
The fox preys farthest from his hole.  
The full does not believe the hungry.  
The great and the little have need of one another.  
The greater the man, the greater the crime.  
The greatest business of life is to prepare for death.  
The greatest clerks are not always the wisest men.  
The greatest crabs are not always the best meat.  
The greatest strokes make not the best music.  
The legs of the lame are not equal.  
The more servants the worst service.  
The morning hour has gold in its mouth.

The narrower the edge the deeper the cut.  
The pen is mightier than the sword.  
The pig prefers mud to clean water.  
The plaintiff and the defendant took the  
horns and the tail, and the lawyer drove home  
the cow.  
The price of learning is above rubies.  
The sword knows no friends.  
The truth is always the strongest argument.  
They follow each other like ducks in a  
gutter.  
Three women and a goose make a market.  
To dance to every man's pipe.  
To get the lion's share.  
To have a finger in the pie.  
To heap coals of fire upon one's head.  
To keep from falling keep climbing.  
To keep the wolf from the door.  
To make a mountain of a molehill.  
Too far east is west.  
To tell tales out of school.  
Too many cooks spoil the broth.  
To put one's head into the wolf's mouth.  
To swim between the waters.  
To the fallen tree: Hatchets! hatchets!  
To throw the house out of the window.  
Two hands in a dish and one in a purse.  
Two souls with but a single thought; two  
hearts that beat as one.

U

Unto the pure all things are pure.

W

Weapons bode peace.  
When one door shuts another opens.  
When mastiffs fight little curs will bark.  
When the big dog is down the little dogs  
bite him.  
When the cup is full carry it even.  
When tree falls every one runs to cut  
boughs.  
When wine is in wit is out.  
When you are with the Hindoos do as the  
Hindoos do.  
Where there is a gathering of donkeys, kick-  
ing is cheap.  
While awaiting the tragedy enjoy the farce.  
Who depends on another's table may often  
dine late.  
Wise men make jests and fools repeat them.  
Wishing is of all employments the poorest  
paid.  
Women are wise offhand and fools on re-  
flection.  
Work provides easy chairs for old age.  
Worshipping the golden calf.

Y

You cannot shoe a running horse.  
You can't draw blood from a turnip.  
Your cake is dough.  
Youth and age will never agree.

## Classified English Proverbs Selected from many sources.

### Absence, Absurdity, Abundance, Accusation.

Absence makes the heart grow fonder.

Conspicuous by its absence.

The absent are always in the wrong.

Your wits are gone a wool-gathering.

To carry coals to Newcastle.

You may as well tell me the moon is made of green cheese.

He is building a bridge over the sea.

If you squeeze a cork you will get but little juice.

There is but one step from the sublime to the ridiculous.

Good pastures make fat sheep.

The nearer the bone the sweeter the flesh.

The wolf calls the fox robber.

Always put the saddle on the right horse.

A guilty conscience needs no accuser.

If the cap fit wear it.

---

### Actions, Deeds, Means to End, Accomplice.

Better go round than fall in the ditch.

The wheel that turns gathers no rust.

When I did well, I heard it never; when I did ill, I heard it ever.

Better do it than wish it done.

Brave actions never want a trumpet.

Don't make two bites of a cherry.

Learn the luxury of doing good.

Words are for women, actions for men.

Never be weary of well-doing.

Better to wear out than to rust out.

Good deeds remain, all things else perish.

A good action is never thrown away.

The better the day the better the deed.

A mewling cat is never a mouser.

It is not the hen that cackles the most that lays the most eggs.

Promise little and do much.

Good actions carry their warrant with them.

Great designs require great consideration.

What is done cannot be undone.

If you wish a thing done, go; if not, send.

Do well is better than say well.

He that is afraid of doing too much always does too little.

If you would have a thing well done do it yourself.

What you do yourself is well done.

Many ways to kill a dog besides hanging him.

Whipping the devil around the stump.

He sins as much who holds the bag as he who puts into it.

The accomplice is as bad as the thief.

Wade not where you see no bottom.

**Adaptability, Suitability.**

The back is shaped to the burden.

One must cut his coat according to his cloth.

Where you cannot climb over you must creep under.

Take things always by the smooth handle.

It is hard to teach an old dog new tricks.

The priest to his book, the peasant to his plough.

Like a cat, he'll still fall upon his legs.

Suit yourself to the times.

The right man in the right place.

---

**Advice Counsel.**

After-advice is fool's advice.

Be slow of giving advice, ready to do a service.

A word before is worth two after.

Nothing is so liberally given as advice.

He asks advice in vain who will not follow it.

It is better to seek advice at the beginning than at the end.

Man gives nothing so willingly as advice.

Advice after mischief is like medicine after death.

Advice to a fool goes in at one ear and out at the other.

Advisers are not givers.

Examine well the counsels that favor your desires.

Give neither counsel nor salt till you are asked for it.

A fool may give a wise man counsel.

If the counsel be good it matters not who gives it.

Keep your own counsel.

Counsel must be followed, not praised.

Good counsel has no price.

A resolute heart endures no counsel.

Counsel after action is like rain after harvest.

Good counsel comes over night.

Happy counsel flows from sober feasts.

He that cannot be counselled cannot be helped. *no 5-2*

It is easier to give good counsel than to follow it.

It is well to take counsel of one's pillow.

To give counsel to a fool is like throwing water on a goose.

---

**Agreement, Union.**

It takes two to make a bargain.

Hearts may agree though heads differ.

Union is strength. *no 10-7*

United we stand, divided we fall.

---

**Aim, Motive, Pursuit.**

To hit the nail on the head.

A good archer is not known by his arrows, but by his aim.

To follow one's nose.



**Anger, Passion, Surliness—Appreciation.**

As mad as a March hare.

The anger of a good man is the hardest to bear.

Anger and haste hinder good counsel.

Anger and love give bad counsel.

Anger first and pity afterwards.

The sun should never set on our anger.

The more violent the storm the sooner it is over.

No man can guess in cold blood what he may do in a passion.

The end of passion is the beginning of repentance.

As cross as a bear with a sore head.

It goes against the grain.

A bad vessel is seldom broken.

We never know the worth of water till the well is dry.

What costs little is little esteemed.

---

**Argument, Assertion.**

A single fact is worth a shipload of argument.

That which proves too much proves nothing

Use soft words and hard arguments.

Assertion is no proof.

As plain as the nose on a man's face.

---

**Authority, Order, Punishment, Discipline, Restraint.**

In my own house I am king.

To reckon without one's host.

Too many cooks spoil the broth.

Might makes right.

The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world.

Order is heaven's first law.

Have a place for everything and everything in its place.

First come, first served.

To set all at sixes and sevens.

Punishment comes slowly, but it comes.

Birchen twigs break no ribs.

To handle without mittens.

Who will not feed the cats, must feed the mice and rats.

I must be cruel, only to be kind.

Bend the willow while it is young.

He that loves his child chastises him.

As the twig is bent the tree's inclined.

A mischievous cur must be tied short.

To put a spoke in his wheel.

To turn over a new leaf.

It never troubles the wolf how many the sheep be.

Fetters, even of gold, are heavy.

---

**Beauty, Beginnings, Endings.**

Beauty may have fair leaves, yet bitter fruit.  
Sweets to the sweet.

Beauty draws more than oxen.  
A fair face is half a portion.  
Beauty without virtue is a curse.  
Beauty is but skin deep.  
A thing of beauty is a joy forever.  
All that's fair must fade.  
Beauty and folly are often companions.  
Beauty and understanding go rarely together.  
Beauty carries its dower in its face.  
Beauty is a good letter of introduction.  
Beauty opens locked doors.  
Beauty without virtue is a rose without fragrance.  
Beauty's tears are lovelier than her smiles.  
She that is born a beauty is half married.  
Everything must have a beginning.  
He is half done who has made a beginning.  
From small beginnings come great things.  
The greatest oaks have been little acorns.  
Good to begin well, better to end well.  
Alexander himself was once a crying babe.  
A bad beginning often makes a good ending.  
Begin in time to finish without hurry.  
A day's pleasure and a year's grief.  
As you make your bed so you must lie on it.  
The end justifies the means.  
There's a divinity that shapes our ends,  
rough hew them how we will.

---

**Birth.**

He was born with a silver spoon in his mouth.  
Hatched in the same nest.  
Let the cobbler stick to his last.  
He that abides low cannot fall hard.

---

**Business, Busy, Occupation, Borrowing, Bargain, Debt, Obligation.**

Who buys has need of eyes, but one's enough to sell the stuff.  
Business neglected is business lost.  
Never refuse a good offer.  
Keep thy shop, and thy shop will keep thee  
The best is cheapest.  
Good wares make a quick market.  
If thou wouldst keep money, save money.  
Two heads are better than one.  
He is most cheated who cheats himself.  
A man without a smiling face must not open a shop.  
A nimble sixpence is better than a slow shilling.  
Business before pleasure.  
Dispatch is the soul of business.  
As busy as a bee.  
I have other fish to fry.  
As busy as a hen with one chick.  
To have his hands full.  
Be not ashamed of your craft.  
There are tricks in all trades but ours.

When one borrows one cannot choose.  
He that goes a borrowing goes a sorrowing.  
If you would know the value of a ducat, try  
to borrow one.  
What is not wanted is dear at a penny.  
Necessity never makes a good bargain.  
That which costs little is lightly esteemed.  
Make the best of a bad bargain.  
To work for a dead horse.  
Without debt, without care.  
Happy is he who owes nothing.

---

**Character, Reputation, Colors.**

Nothing comes out of the sack but what was  
in it.  
A wolf is a wolf though it has torn no sheep.  
As good be hanged for a sheep as for a lamb.  
He who hath an ill name is half hanged.  
As black as a coal.  
As green as grass.  
Cold hand, a warm heart.  
Every cloud has a silver lining.  
If there were no clouds we should not enjoy  
the sun.  
Like cures like.  
At Rome, do as Rome does.  
The sun can be seen by nothing but its own  
light.  
As clear as a bell.  
As clear as crystal.  
A picture is a poem without words.  
As the mother, so the daughter.  
Set a thief to catch a thief.  
Children are what the mothers are.  
The parent's life is the child's copybook.  
Like master, like man.

---

**Courage, Cowardice, Fear, Timidity.**

He takes the bull by the horns.  
He who would gather roses must not fear  
thorns.  
Fortune favors the brave.  
Better face a danger once than be always in  
fear.  
Who has no courage must have legs.  
None but the brave deserve the fair.  
The brave man may fall but cannot yield.  
Cowards die many times before their deaths.  
The valiant never taste death but once.  
Put a coward to his mettle and he'll fight the  
devil.  
The bully is always a coward.  
Conscience doth make cowards of us all.  
Tears are no proof of cowardice.  
Fear kills more than the physician.  
You cry out before you are hurt.  
The burnt child dreads the fire.  
Of all bad passions fear is most accursed.  
Afraid of his own shadow.  
To quake like an aspen leaf.  
Faint heart never won fair lady.

**Custom, Habit, Use, Useless.**

Custom makes all things easy.

Custom is a second nature.

Man is a bundle of habits.

Habit is second nature.

Hired horses make short miles.

Like arming a hog in the snout with a plow-share, that can tear up ground without it.

It is bad to be between two fires.

They who play with edge tools must expect to be cut.

No viper so little but hath its venom.

It won't do to trifle with fire.

Do not hang all on one nail.

Don't put all your eggs in one basket.

Who bravely dares must sometimes risk a fall.

Who never climb'd, never fell.

He that takes too great a leap falls into the ditch.

You trust a great weight to a slender thread.

If thou canst not see the bottom, wade not.

To buy a pig in a poke.

Happy go lucky.

**Death, Impending Ruin.**

Death is the grand leveler.

The fairest rose at last is withered.

Young men may die; old men must.

The swan sings when death comes.

The grave levels all distinctions.

Death loves a shining mark.

We think all men mortal but ourselves.

All death is sudden to the unprepared.

They that live longest must die at last.

The first breath is the beginning of death.

Do not speak ill of the dead.

Dead men tell no tales.

Every one must pay his debt to nature.

He whom the gods love, dies young.

It is better to die with honor than to live in infamy.

Never say die.

Six feet of earth makes all men equal.

He is on his last legs.

**Delay, Procrastination.**

All is not lost that is delayed.

A promise delayed is justice deferred.

It is too late to cover the well when the child is drowned.

It is too late to lock the stable door when the steed is stolen.

You come a day after the fair.

'Tis in vain to kick after you have once put on fetters.

**Desire.**

Nimble thought can jump both sea and land.

No one can have all he desires.

Wishing of all employments is the worst.

Wishes never can fill a sack.



Necessity is a good teacher.  
Necessity is a hard master.  
Necessity is the mother of invention.  
Necessity hath no law.

---

**Disappointment.**

It is a hard nut to crack.  
He has an elephant on his hands.  
If you can't help, don't hinder.  
Put a spoke in his wheel.  
To play the dog in the manger.  
The best laid schemes of mice and men gang  
aft a-gley.  
Many a slip 'twixt the cup and the lip.

---

**Doubt, Uncertainty, Indecision, Decision, Per-  
plexity.**

Out of a white egg often comes a black chick.  
One ploughs, another sows,  
Who will reap no one knows.  
No one knows what will happen to him be-  
fore sunset.  
He beats about the bush.  
He is at his wit's end.

---

**Dress, Appearances, Fashion.**

The apparel oft proclaims the man.  
The coat does not make the man.  
Appearances are often deceitful.  
To look like a drowned mouse.  
He's not the best carpenter that makes the  
most chips.  
Never judge from appearances.  
Talk of the devil and his imp appears.  
Black cows give white milk.  
As neat as a new pin.  
As plump as a partridge.  
As flat as a flounder.  
As gaunt as a greyhound.  
As white as the driven snow.  
Not every one that dances is glad.  
A poor cask often holds good wine.  
All leaf and no fruit.  
Nobody's sweetheart is ugly.

---

**Drink, Intemperance, Duty.**

When drink enters, wisdom departs.  
As drunk as a lord.  
Duties are ours; events are God's.  
Do unto others as you would be done unto.  
The path of duty is the path of safety.

---

**Eloquence, Speech, Boasting, Bluster, Whis-  
pering, Brevity, Silence.**

To call a spade a spade.  
Much chatter, little wit.  
To have a thing at the tip of one's tongue.  
Much talk, little work.  
They always talk who never think.  
Great boast, small roast.  
Much cry and little wool.  
A barking dog was never a good hunter.

The empty vessel makes the greatest sound.  
Barking dogs seldom bite.  
Small brooks make the greatest noise.  
Where there is whispering there is lying.  
'Tis better to be brief than tedious.  
Short and sweet.  
Silence is wisdom, when speaking is folly.  
The less said the sooner mended.  
Silence gives consent.  
Silent as the grave.  
Still waters run deep.  
Silence is as great an art as speech.

---

**Equality—Error, Truth.**

Six of one; half a dozen of the other.  
If you play with boys, you must take boys' play.

---

**Evil, Evil Communications, Choice of Evils,  
Sin, Crime.**

Depart from evil and do good.  
Evil to him who evil thinks.  
Never do evil that good may come.  
The reward of unlawful pleasure is lawful pain.  
Abstain from all appearances of evil.  
He that blows in the fire gets sparks in his eyes.  
He that handles pitch shall defile his fingers.  
He cut off his nose to spite his face.  
You must take the fat with the lean.  
Hobson's choice.  
No joy without alloy.  
One man's meat is another man's poison.  
Behind every mountain lies a vale.  
He who would gather roses must not fear thorns.  
A sin confessed is half forgiven.  
More sined against than sinning.

---

**Faults, Fault-Finding, Confession of Faults,  
Reproof, Censure, Praise.**

Every man has his faults.  
One fault will not justify another.  
They who live in glass houses should not throw stones.  
Point not at other's spots with a foul finger.  
They who seek only for faults, see nothing else.  
The pot upbraids the kettle that is black.  
Reprove thy friend privately; commend him publicly.  
The sting of a reproach is the truth of it.  
Reprove others, but correct thyself.  
Whipping a man over another's shoulders.  
It is a good horse that never stumbles, and a good wife that never grumbles.  
Praise not yourself.  
His praise is lost who stays till all commend.  
Praise makes good men better, and bad men worse.

**Feasting, Food, Hunger, Appetite.**

Eating little and sleeping little can never do a man harm.

You dig your grave with your teeth.

When the stomach is full the heart is glad.

Hunger is better than a French cook.

As hungry as a church mouse.

---

**Friends, Friendship, Companionship, Affection,  
Love, Enemies.**

A friend is not known till he is lost.

A friend should bear a friend's infirmities.

A good friend is better than silver or gold.

Defend me from my friends, I can defend myself from my enemies.

Familiar paths and old friends are the best.

He is a good friend who speaks well of us behind our backs.

Hit him again, he has no friends.

The best mirror is an old friend.

A friend is never known till needed.

You will never have a friend if you must have one without fault.

Old friends and old wine are best.

A friend in court makes the process short.

They are rich who have true friends.

Be slow in choosing a friend, slower in changing him.

The best of friends must part.

The only way to have a friend is to be one.

Who has no friends only half lives.

I would rather have a dog my friend than my enemy.

Who makes friends of all, keeps none.

Without a friend, the world is wilderness.

A friend at court is better than a penny in the purse.

While the pot boils friendship blooms.

Good company makes short miles.

You may know him by the company he keeps.

The more the merrier; the fewer the better cheer.

Birds of a feather flock together.

To be hail fellow, well met, with one.

Sweet discourse makes short days and nights.

They that touch pitch will be defiled.

They two are hand and glove.

Who keeps company with a wolf will learn to howl.

Every Jack must have his Jill.

A scolding wife and a smoking chimney are two bad companions.

The more acquaintances the more danger.

Too much familiarity breeds contempt.

There is no beast so savage but it sports with its mate.

The beetle is a beauty in the eyes of its mother.

'Tis better to have loved and lost,

Than never to have loved at all.

When mistrust enters, love departs.

When we do not respect we soon cease to love.

All mankind loves a lover.

Men respect and women love.

One love drives out another.

Love me little and love me long.

Hot love is soon cold.

To put one's nose out of joint.

Love me, love my dog.

Love knows not labor.

Love will find out the way.

Man loves but once.

The stouter the enemy the more glorious the victory.

An open enemy is better than a false friend.

Better have the enemy in the front than in the rear.

Do not despise your enemy.

One can learn even from an enemy.

If we are bound to forgive an enemy, we are not bound to trust him.

We carry our greatest enemies within us.

Though thy enemy seem a mouse, yet watch him like a lion.

---

#### **Gambling, Gain, Wagers.**

In all games it is good to leave off a winner.

When two play, one must lose.

Gambling is an express train to ruin.

He who gambles picks his own pocket.

It is well to leave off playing when the game is at the best.

The love of gaming is the worst of ills.

Great gain makes work easy.

What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul.

To feather one's nest well.

None but fools and knaves lay wagers.

Ducks lay eggs; geese lay wagers.

A wager is a fool's argument.

---

#### **Happiness, Joy, Cheerfulness, Music, Recreation, Contentment, Discontent.**

It's a sad heart that never rejoices.

We should publish our joys and conceal our griefs.

Joy and sorrow are next door neighbors.

Cheerful company shortens the miles.

Cheerfulness and good will make labor light.

A little nonsense now and then

Is relished by the best of men.

As merry as a cricket.

He laughs best who laughs last.

Laugh and grow fat.

Laugh and the world laughs with you.

Laughter does not prove a mind at ease.

The laughter of the cottage is the most hearty.

The loud laugh speaks the vacant mind.

I had rather have a fool to make me merry than experience to make me sad.

To laugh in one's sleeve.



Much laughter, little wit.  
A merry host makes merry guests.  
He who sings drives away sorrow.  
Some sing who are not merry.  
Music hath charms to soothe the savage breast.

Use pastime, so as not to lose time.  
Who cannot climb the mountain must remain in the valley.

Leave well enough alone.  
A contented man is always rich.  
He has enough who is content.  
To be content with little is true happiness.  
The cottage is a palace to the poor.  
A contented mind is a continual feast.  
The greatest wealth is contentment with a little.

Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown.

**Help, Assistance, Servant, Master.**

Many hands make light work.  
A drowning man will catch at a straw.  
The great and the little have need of one another.

He has enough to keep the wolf from the door.

If you wish to be well served, serve yourself.  
No man can serve two masters.  
It is an ill horse that will not carry his own provender.

**Home, Mother, Childhood, Hospitality.**

The fire burns brighter on one's own hearth.  
There's no place like home.  
Men make houses, but women make homes.  
Home is home, be it ever so homely.  
A man's house is his castle.  
God could not be everywhere, therefore he made mothers.

A mother's love changes never.  
Every mother's child is handsome.  
A father maintains ten children better than ten children one father.

The father in praising his son extols himself.  
Children should be seen, not heard.  
A babe in the house is a well-spring of pleasure.

None of us like the crying of another person's baby.

Too many nurses spoil the broth of a boy.  
As welcome as snow in summer.  
Do not out-stay your welcome.  
Come unbidden, sits unserved.  
Welcome the coming and speed the parting guest.

**Hope, Expectation, Forecast, Despair.**

Hope for the best.  
As long as there is life there is hope.  
The mighty hopes that make us men.  
If it were not for hope, the heart would break.  
Hope is grief's best music.

Blessed is he who expects nothing, for he shall not be disappointed.

He that waits for dead men's shoes may go long enough barefoot.

Long looked-for comes at last.

A calm precedes a storm.

Don't cry out till you are out of the woods.

All clouds bring not rain.

One crow does not make a winter.

A calm portends a storm.

Straws show which way the wind blows.

One swallow does not make a summer.

Despair gives courage to a coward.

### Impossibility, Impression.

Nothing is impossible to pains and patience.

No man can lose what he never had.

You can't eat your cake, and have it too.

Youth and white paper take any impression.

To set the best foot forward.

### Industry, Diligence, Idleness.

Industry is the parent of success.

It is better to wear out than to rust out.

To hold one's nose to the grindstone.

Diligence is the mother of good fortune.

Idleness has poverty for wages.

Idleness leads to vice.

Idle folks have the least leisure.

An idle brain is the devil's workshop.

Better to be idle than not well occupied.

They that do nothing learn to do ill.

Idleness is the greatest prodigality in the world.

Doing nothing is doing ill.

Idleness always envies industry.

A lazy boy and a warm bed are difficult to part.

To a lazy man every day is a holiday.

Sloth is the mother of poverty.

### Investigation, Questions, Curiosity.

Never answer a question until it is asked.

No question is settled until it is settled right.

Ask no questions and I'll tell you no fibs.

Curiosity killed the cat.

### Jests, Jokes—Little Things.

Leave off the jest when it is at its merriest.

He jests at scars that never felt a wound.

Large streams from little fountains flow.

Tall oaks from little acorns grow.

A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump.

A little bait catches a large fish.

A small matter hurts one that is sore.

Many littles make a mickle.

Every day a thread makes a skein a year.

There is no bush so small but casts its shadow.

One link broken, the whole chain is broken.

A small spark makes a great fire.

A short horse is soon curried.

**Kindness and Unkindness, Charity, Generosity,  
Gratitude and Ingratitude.**

He who takes the child by the hand takes  
the mother by the heart.

Good temper oils the wheels of life.

Let not thy right hand know what thy left  
hand doeth.

To kill with kindness.

I must be cruel only to be kind.

This was the most unkindest cut of all.

They hurt themselves that wrong others.

To leave one in the lurch.

Charity covers a multitude of sins.

He who gives to the poor lends to the Lord.

He that has no charity merits no mercy.

As cold as charity.

No one becomes poor through giving alms.

Liberal hands make many friends.

God loveth a cheerful giver.

Give every man his due.

He doubles his gift who gives in time.

The hand that gives gathers.

Never too much of a good thing.

Too much of a good thing is worse than  
none at all.

If God be with us who shall be against us?

I taught you to swim and now you'd drown  
me.

---

**Madness.**

Whom the gods would destroy they first  
make mad.

Every madman thinks all other men mad.

Though this be madness there's method in it.

---

**Manners, Conduct, Courtesy, Gentleness,  
Civility.**

He's a man every inch of him.

Present company is always excepted.

Conduct hath the loudest tongue.

A hint for a gentleman a club for a clown.

Hat in hand goes through the land.

Politeness is benevolence in small things.

All doors open to courtesy.

Birth is much, but breeding is more.

As gentle as a lamb.

He is more nice than wise.

Civility costs nothing.

---

**Marriage, Courtship, Husband, Wife.**

Keep your eyes wide open before marriage  
and half shut after.

Married in haste, we may repent at leisure.

Marriages are made in Heaven.

Marry in haste and repent at leisure.

Maidens say "no" and mean "yes."

The last suitor wins the maid.

Better be an old man's darling than a young  
man's slave.

**Marvels, Wonders.**

That which is not understood is always marvelous.

Wonders will never cease.

Wonders are forgotten in nine days.

**Memory, Forgetfulness.**

Many complain of their memory, none of their judgment.

That which was bitter to endure may be sweet to remember.

Memory is the treasurer of the mind.

We have all forgotten more than we remember.

**Mischief-Making, Rumor, Gossip.**

A mischievous cur must be tied short.

Meddle not with what you don't understand.

No good ever comes of minding other men's matters.

One tale is good till another is told.

A tale never loses in the telling.

What will Mrs. Grundy say?

Everybody says it, nobody knows it.

**Misfortune, Calamity, Adversity.**

Misfortune is a good teacher.

Our worst misfortunes are those that never befall us.

When a man is down everybody runs over him.

Rats desert a sinking ship.

Adversity has no friends.

Adversity is the parent of virtue.

Adversity makes men, prosperity monsters.

Sweet are the uses of adversity.

**Modesty, Bashfulness, Humiliation.**

Hide not your light under a bushel.

Humility often gains more than pride.

When the sun is highest he casts the least shadow.

To take one a peg lower.

However high a bird may soar it seeks its food on earth.

**Nature, Providence, God.**

One touch of nature makes the whole world kin.

What God made He never mars.

The groves were God's first temples.

There is a special providence in the fall of a sparrow.

Man's extremity, God's opportunity.

Nothing with God is accidental.

God tempers the wind to the shorn lamb.

God never sends mouths but he sends meat.

Man proposes, God disposes.

**New Things, News.**

Variety is the spice of life that gives it all its flavor.

Bad news is the first to come.

No news is good news.

Ill tidings come soon enough.



**Rest, Sleep, Darkness.**

Rest is the sweet sauce of labor.  
Too much rest itself becomes a pain.  
One must not take his cares to bed with him.  
Darkness has no shame.  
What is done by night appears by day.  
As dark as pitch.

---

**Physical Qualities, Blindness.**

The countenance is the index of the mind. ✓  
Aching teeth are ill tenants.  
A loud voice bespeaks a vulgar man.  
As blind as a beetle or a bat.  
A wink is as good as a nod to a blind man. ✓

---

**Pleasure—Possibility.**

Sweet is pleasure after pain.  
The farthest way about is the nearest way home.  
What has been may be.

---

**Poverty, Want.**

Poverty is no sin, but it is terribly inconvenient.  
No one is poor but he who thinks himself so.  
It is no sin to be poor.  
Poverty craves many things but avarice more.  
A young man idle, an old man needy.  
When poverty comes in at the door love leaps out at the window.  
The poor ye have always with you.  
As poor as Job.  
As poor as a church mouse.  
Waste not, want not.

**Prejudice—Premature—Preparation—Pride.**

Beware of the man of one book.  
To be hide-bound.  
Never howl till you're hit.  
Never cry hello till you are out of the woods.  
First catch your hare, then cook it.  
In peace prepare for war.  
Draw not your bow till your arrow is fixed.  
Pride goeth before destruction and a haughty spirit before a fall.  
Poor and proud? Fy, fy.  
Pride in prosperity turns to misery in adversity.  
As proud as a peacock.

---

**Progress, Growth, Productions—Promise.**

A promised dollar is not worth half.  
Don't promise what you can't perform.  
Promises are like pie-crusts, made to be broken.  
You cackle often but never lay an egg.

**Prosperity, Success, Luck, Proximity.**

All claim kindred with the prosperous.

In prosperity think of adversity.

Prosperity gains friends, and adversity tries them.

Hoist your sail when the wind is fair. *W 37*

To make both ends meet.

Nothing succeeds like success.

Success has many friends.

They never fail who die in a great cause.

The secret of success is constancy to purpose.

Look to the main chance.

Deserve success and you shall command it.

It is a bad action that success cannot justify.

To kill two birds with one stone.

To cast an old shoe after one.

If it were a snake it would bite you.

---

**Prudence, Discretion, Indiscretion, Economy, Extravagance.**

Prudence is the parent of success.

Be on the safe side.

Do not ship all in one bottom.

The game is not worth the candle.

Who begins too much accomplishes little.

Not all words require an answer.

Better ask than go astray.

Be sure before you marry of a house wherein to tarry.

✓ Lock the stable door before the steed is stolen.

He knows which side of his bread is butter'd.

Swift to attack, swift to run away.

Saving is getting.

To sow his wild oats.

The better part of valor is discretion.

Who says little has little to answer for.

He that shows his purse longs to be rid of it.

A fine cage won't feed the bird.

Saving is a greater art than gaining.

A farthing saved is twice earned.

Beware of little expenses; a small leak will sink a great ship.

You dig your grave with your teeth.

Scatter with one hand, gather with two.

To live from hand to mouth.

---

**Quarrel, Dissension.**

Interfere not in the quarrel of others.

It takes two to make a quarrel.

A house divided against itself cannot stand.

To add fuel to the fire.

The second blow makes the fray.

They agree like cats and dogs.

When rogues fall out honest men come by their own.

Two dogs strive for a bone and the third runs away with it.

I have a crow to pluck with you.

The mob has many heads but no brains.

To pick a quarrel.

**Recompense, Exchange.**

Every hill has its valley.  
To the victors belong the spoils.  
He is well paid that is well satisfied.  
To have nothing but one's labor for one's pains.  
He robs Peter to pay Paul.  
One good turn deserves another.  
To take out of one pocket to put in the other.

**Religion, Church, Prayer.**

What is a man profited if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul.  
Be not righteous over much.  
Let the devil get into the church and he will mount the altar.  
More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of.  
Without prayer no work is well begun.

**Repentance, Repetition, Remedy.**

Not to repent of a fault is to justify it.  
A noble mind disdains not to repent.  
Repentance is the heart's medicine.  
To harp upon the same string.  
Desperate diseases require desperate remedies.  
The remedy is worse than the disease.

**Retaliation, Retribution, Revenge.**

He that pelts every barking dog must pick up a great many stones.  
You get as good as you bring.  
To pay one in his own coin.  
The good or evil we confer on others often recoils on ourselves.  
It is a dangerous thing to dig pits for other folks.  
He is caught in his own snare.  
Whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap.  
Revenge is an expensive luxury.  
To forget a wrong is the best revenge.

**Riches, Fortune, Money, Cost.**

The rich never want for kindred.  
A light purse makes a heavy heart.  
Give me neither poverty nor riches.  
Petty thieves are hanged; people take off their hats to great ones.  
The devil catches most souls in a golden net.  
More luck than wit.  
When fortune knocks, open the door.  
Better luck next time.  
He's in clover.  
Fortune does not stand waiting at any one's door.  
It is better to be born lucky than rich.  
His bread is buttered on both sides.  
Ill blows the wind that profits nobody.  
Fortune knocks once at least at every man's gate.  
Fortune helps them that helps themselves.

### Money.

A man without money is like a ship without sails.

Bad money always comes back.

no 22 Money is the root of all evil.

Put not your trust in money, but your money in trust.

Rather a man without money than money without a man.

Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Money is a good servant, but a dangerous master.

Would you know the value of money, go borrow some.

It is poor sport that is not worth the candle.

---

### Purpose, Will, Ambition, Motive.

No wind can do him good who steers for no port.

Take the will for the deed.

Where there's a will, there's a way.

To him that wills, ways are not wanting.

The paths of glory lead but to the grave.

He has a bee in his bonnet.

Ambition has no rest.

Ambition, like a torrent, never looks back.

The noblest motive is the public good.

Man punishes the action, but God the intention.

What wind blew you hither?

'Tis not the action, but the intention, that is good or bad.

---

### Right, Wrong, Injury, Guilt, Lying, Stealing, Bribery, Overreaching, Rivalry.

Be sure you're right, then go ahead.

No one is always right.

Two wrongs do not make a right.

More sinned against than sinning.

'Tis better to suffer wrong than do it.

He who wishes to injure another will soon find a pretext.

It is better to suffer an injury than to commit one.

The guilty mind needs no accuser.

He lies as fast as a horse can trot.

Liars should have good memories.

"They say" is often proved a great liar.

A liar is sooner caught than a cripple.

A lie needs twenty more to prop it.

A lie that is half truth is the blackest lie.

Lying and gossiping go hand in hand.

No lie so gross that it does not find believers.

The liar is not believed when he speaks the truth.

Though a lie be swift, truth overtakes it.

To tell a lie and give a reason for it.

The receiver is as bad as the thief.

Who steals my purse steals trash.

Every man has his weak side.



Give him but rope enough and he'll hang himself.

Give him an inch and he'll take an ell.

A clear conscience is a good pillow.

A good conscience knows no fear.

A good conscience makes a joyful countenance.

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Wisdom, Folly, Fools, Ignorance, Learning,  
Difficulty of Attainment, Education, Travel,  
History, Books, Proverbs and Maxims.

Even an ass will not fall twice in the same place.

You cannot catch old birds with chaff.

Where the river is deepest, it runneth quietest.

Better be wise than rich.

Folly and learning often dwell together.

Good swimmers are oftenest drowned.

He has killed the goose that laid the golden egg.

Ignorance and impudence are inseparable companions.

It is well to profit by the folly of others.

None but a fool is always right.

There is no fool like a learned fool.

All the fools are not dead yet.

Where ignorance is bliss 'tis folly to be wise.

Ignorance is the mother of impudence.

A little learning is a dang'rous thing.

There is much more learning than knowledge in the world.

A man is born wise or learned.

Whatever has been attained is attainable.

---

### Work, Workman, Worry.

Men's work is from sun to sun,

Women's work is never done.

Work first, then rest.

Learn to labor and to wait.

One bee is better than a handful of flies.

The laborer is worthy of his hire.

Men must work and women must weep.

A workman is known by his chips.

As is the workman, so is the work.

They may know the workman by his work.

The work praises the workman.

It is not work that kills men, it is worry.

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### Youth and Age.

Old men for counsel, young men for war.

The aged in counsel, the young in action.

The young may die, the old must die.

Youth should be a savings bank.

Youth looks forward and age backward.

He that corrects not youth controls not age.

The child is father to the man.

Once a man, twice a boy.

Who honors not age is unworthy of it.

Men are but children of a larger growth.

Old heads on younger shoulders.

## Popular and Well Known English Proverbs.

### A

- A bad bush is better than the open field.
- A bad day never hath a good night.
- A bad padlock invites a picklock.
- A bad workman quarrels with his tools.
- A bald head is soon shaven.
- A bargain is a bargain.
- A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.
- A bird in the net is worth a hundred flying.
- A bird may be caught with a snare, that will not be shot.
- A black hen will lay a white egg.
- A black plum is as sweet as a white.
- A black shoe makes a merry heart.
- A blind man gets small good of a lantern.
- A blind man will not thank you for a looking-glass.
- A bridle for the tongue is a necessary piece of furniture.
- A broad hat does not always cover a venerable head.
- A broken sleeve holdeth the arm back.
- A candle lights others and consumes itself.
- A cat may look at a king.
- A cat on hot bricks is all in a hurry.
- A change of pasture makes fat calves.
- A child may whip a man that is bound.
- A clean hand wants no washing.
- A colt you may break, but an old horse you never can.
- A cow may catch a hare.
- A cripple may catch a hare.
- A crooked stick will have a crooked shadow.
- A crowd is not company.
- A danger foreseen is half avoided.
- A disease known is half cured.
- A dog in the manger.
- A dog will not cry if you beat him with a bone.
- A drowning man will catch at a rush.
- A fair face may be a foul bargain.
- A fair face may hide a foul heart.
- A fault confessed is half redressed.
- A fog cannot be dispelled by a fan.
- A fool and his money are soon parted.
- A fool can dance without a fiddle.
- A fool may ask more questions in an hour than a wise man can answer in seven years.
- A fool's tongue is long enough to cut his own throat.
- A fox should not be of the jury at a goose's trial.
- A friend in need is a friend indeed.
- A full purse never lacks friends.
- A gentleman should have more in his pocket than on his back.

A glass of water is sometimes worth a ton of wine.

A gold ring does not cure a felon.

A good archer is not known by his arrows, but his aim.

A good beginning makes a good ending.

A good dog deserves a good bone.

A good example is the best sermon.

A good face needs no paint.

A good garden may have some weeds.

A good horse cannot be of bad colour.

A good life keeps off wrinkles.

A good marksman may miss.

A good name is better than riches.

A good stomach is the best sauce.

A good tale ill told is a bad one.

A good tree is a good shelter.

A good wife makes a good husband.

A great head and a little wit.

A guilty conscience needs no accuser.

47 A half loaf is better than no bread.

A handful of trade is a handful of gold.

A hungry horse maketh a clean manger.

A little bird wants but a little nest.

A little knowledge is a dangerous thing.

A little stream may quench thirst as well as a great river.

A little stream will drive a light mill.

A man forewarned is forearmed.

A man may buy even gold too dear.

A man may talk like a wise man, and yet act like a fool.

A man of words, and not of deeds, is like a garden full of weeds.

A miss is as good as a mile.

A mitted cat never was a good hunter.

A new broom sweeps clean.

A penny saved is a penny gained.

A penny saved is two pence got.

A pitcher that goes off to the well is broken at last.

A pretty face wins the case.

A reconciled friend is a double enemy.

A silver key can open an iron lock.

A single fact is worth an shipload of argument.

A slice off a cut loaf is never missed.

A small leak will sink a great ship.

A small spark makes a great fire.

A small sore wants not a great plaster.

A smoking chimney in a great house is a good sign.

A sparrow in hand is worth a pheasant that flyeth by.

A stitch in time saves nine.

A straight stick is crooked in the water.

A thin meadow is soon mowed.

A tree is known by its fruit.

A white glove often conceals a dirty hand.

A wise head hath a close mouth to it.

A wise man changes his mind, a fool never.

A wooden leg is better than no leg.

A word hurts more than a wound.  
A word is enough to the wise.  
After a storm comes a calm.  
After Christmas comes Lent.  
After clouds, calm weather.  
After death, the doctor.  
After rain comes fair weather.  
All are not hunters that blow the horn.  
All are not saints that go to church.  
All are not thieves that dogs bark at.  
All cats are alike gray in the night.  
All feet tread not in one shoe.  
All fish are not caught with flies.  
All flesh is not venison.  
All flowers are not in one garland.  
All's fair in love and war.  
All's lost that's poured into a cracked dish.  
All is not butter that comes from the cow.  
All is not gold that glitters. — *no 6*  
All's well that ends well.  
All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy.  
Always put the saddle on the right horse.  
An acute word cuts deeper than a sharp  
weapon.  
An answer is a word.  
An empty bag cannot stand upright.  
An empty purse fills the face with wrinkles.  
An empty purse frights away friends.  
An hour in the morning is worth two in the  
evening.  
An ill cow may have a good calf.  
An ill workman quarrels with his tools.  
An ill wind that blows nobody good.  
An oak is not felled at one chop.  
An old fox needs not to be taught tricks.  
An open door may tempt a saint.  
As like as two peas in a pod.  
As good eat the devil as the broth he is  
boiled in.  
As the old cock crows, so crows the young.  
As the wind blows, you must set your sail.  
As you make your bed, so must you lie in it.  
As you sow, so shall you reap.

**B**

Bad luck often brings good luck.  
Bad news travels fast.  
Bald heads are soon shaven.  
Barefooted men must not go among thorns.  
Be silent, or speak something worth hearing.  
Beauty provoketh thieves sooner than gold.  
Beauty will buy no beef.  
Bees that have honey in their mouths have  
stings in their tails.  
Before you make a friend, eat a peck of salt  
with him.  
Beggars and borrowers must be no choosers.  
Beggars must not be choosers.  
Bells call others to church, but go not them-  
selves.  
Better a bare foot than no foot at all.



Better a tooth out, than always aching.  
Better an empty house than an ill tenant.  
Better be alone than in bad company.  
Better be stung by a nettle than pricked by  
a rose.  
Better be the head of a dog than the tail of a  
lion.  
Better buy than borrow.  
Better cut the shoe than pinch the foot.  
Better go about than fall in the ditch.  
Better half an egg than an empty shell.  
Better is a dinner of herbs, where love is,  
than a stalled ox and hatred therewith.  
Better late than never.  
Better pass a danger once, than always be in  
fear.  
Better ten guilty men escape than one inno-  
cent man suffer.  
Better to live well than long.  
Better to wear out than to rust out.  
Better wait on the cook than the doctor.  
Better wear out shoes than sheets.  
Better weep with the wise than laugh with  
fools.  
Between the hand and the lip, the morsel  
may slip.  
Beware of a silent dog and still water.  
Birds are entangled by their feet, and men by  
their tongues.  
Birds of prey do not flock together.  
Black plums may eat as sweet as white.  
Blessed are the meek; for they shall inherit  
the earth.  
Blind men must not run.  
Boys will be men.  
Brevity is the soul of wit.  
Bridges were made for wise men to walk  
over, and fools to ride under.  
Broken sacks will hold no corn.  
Bye and by is easily said.  
By hammer and hand all arts do stand.

C

Can a mill go with the water that's past?  
Can a mouse fall in love with a cat?  
Catch the bear before you sell his skin.  
Cats hide their claws.  
Censure's the tax a man pays the public for  
being eminent.  
Chains of gold are stronger than chains of  
iron.  
Change of fortune is the lot of life.  
Change of pasture makes fat calves.  
Children and fools have merry lives.  
Children cry for nuts and apples and old men  
for gold and silver.  
Children have wide ears and long tongues.  
Christmas comes but once a year.  
Climb not too high lest the fall be the  
greater.  
Coming events cast their shadows before  
them.

Comparisons are odious.  
Constant dropping wears the stone.  
Content is happiness.  
Content is more than a kingdom.  
Crooked logs make straight fires.  
Crows are never the whiter for washing themselves.  
Cutting out well is better than sewing up well.

D

Dead folks can't bite.  
Death and the grave make no distinction of persons.  
Death defies the doctor.  
Death meets us everywhere.  
Deeds are fruits, words are leaves.  
Deep rivers move in silence, shallow brooks are noisy.  
Defer not till to-morrow what may be done to-day.  
Delays are dangerous.  
Desperate cuts must have desperate cures.  
Dexterity comes by experience.  
Diligence is the mother of good fortune.  
Do as you would be done by.  
Do not hallo till you are out of the wood.  
Do not spur a free horse.  
Do nothing hastily but catching fleas.  
Don't count your chickens before they are hatched.  
Dogs bark as they are bred.  
Dogs ought to bark before they bite.  
Dogs run away with whole shoulders.  
Dogs that bark at a distance never bite.  
Dogs wag their tails not so much to you as your bread.  
Don't buy a pig in a poke.  
Don't cry out till you are out of the bush.  
Drink wine in winter for cold, and in summer for heat.  
Drop by drop the lake is drained.  
Drowning men will catch at a rush.  
Ducks lead the geese to water.  
Dying is as natural as living.

E

Each physician thinks his pills the best.  
Eagles fly alone, but sheep flock together.  
Early birds pick up the crumbs (or worms).  
East or west, home is best.  
Easy it is to bowl down hill.  
Eat a peck of salt with a man before you trust him.  
Eat to live, but do not live to eat.  
Empty vessels give the greatest sound.  
Enough's as good as a feast, to one that's not a beast.  
Enough is as good as a feast.  
Error is always in haste.

Even a child may beat a man that's bound.  
Even a single hair casts its shadow.  
Even the walls have ears.  
Every advantage has its disadvantage.  
Every bird is known by its feathers.  
Every bird must hatch its own eggs.  
Everybody's business is nobody's business.  
Every couple is not a pair.  
Every dog hath its day, and every man his hour.  
Every dog has his day.  
Every dog is a lion at home.  
Every fish that escapes appears greater than it is.  
Every good scholar is not a good school-master.  
Every heart hath its own ache.  
Every light has its shadow.  
Every man is not born with a silver spoon in his mouth.  
Every one as they like, as the woman said when she kissed the cow.  
Every path hath a puddle.  
Every shoe fits not every foot.  
Everything comes to him who waits.  
Everything is good in its season.  
Every tub must stand upon its own bottom.  
Exchange is no robbery.  
Experience is good if not bought too dear.

F

Face to face, the truth comes out.  
Fair feathers make fair fowls.  
Feather by feather the goose is plucked.  
Feed a pig, and you'll have a hog.  
Fields have eyes and hedges ears.  
Fine cloth is never out of fashion.  
Fine feathers make fine birds.  
Fine words won't feed a cat.  
First creep, then go.  
Fishes follow the bait.  
Follow the river and you will go to sea.  
Fools build houses, and wise men buy them.  
Fools make feasts, and wise men eat them.  
Fools may sometimes give wise men counsel.  
For the rose the thorn is often plucked.  
Forbidden fruit is sweetest.  
Forbidden fruit is sweet.  
Fortune gives her hand to a bold man.  
Fortune rarely brings good or evil singly.  
Foul water will quench fire.  
Four eyes see more than two.  
Foxes dig not their own holes.  
Foxes, when they cannot reach the grapes, say they are not ripe.  
From saving comes having.

G

Gifts from enemies are dangerous.  
Give a clown your finger, and he'll take your whole hand.

Give a dog an ill name and you may as well hang him.

Give and spend, and God will send.

Give even the devil his due.

Give thy purse rather than thy time.

God healeth, and the physician hath the thanks.

God helps those who help themselves.

God never sends mouths, but he sends meat.

God sends meat and the devil sends cooks.

God tempers the sea as well as the land.

God tempers the land as well as the sea.

Good clothes open all doors.

Good health is above wealth.

Good resolutions are made to be broken.

Good to begin well, better to end well.

Good words cool more than cold water.

Good words fill not a sack.

Great bodies move slowly.

Great engines turn on small pivots.

Great ships require deep waters.

Great thieves hang little ones.

## H

Half an acre is good land.

Handsome is that handsome does.

Hang not all your bells upon one horse.

Happy men shall have many friends.

Haste makes waste.

Have a place for everything and have everything in its place.

He carries fire in one hand and water in the other.

He has an axe to grind.

He is rich that is satisfied.

He must needs run when the devil drives.

He that blows in the dust fills his own eyes.

He that buys and sells is called a merchant.

He that grasps at too much holds nothing fast.

He that handles a nettle tenderly is soonest stung.

He that hath been bitten by a serpent is afraid of a rope.

He that hath many irons in the fire some of them will cool.

He that is born to be hanged will never be drowned.

He that peeps through a keyhole may see what will vex him.

He that takes too great a leap falls not quite into the ditch.

He that travels far knows much.

He that will not be counseled cannot be helped.

He that will not stoop for a pin shall never be worth a point.

He that will steal a pin will steal a better thing.

He that would have the fruit must climb the tree.



He that would the daughter win must with the mother first begin.

He who commences many things finishes but few.

He who begs timidly courts a refusal.

He who greases his wheels helps his oxen.

He who hath an ill name is half hanged.

He who sows thorns will never reap grapes.

He who would catch fish must never mind getting wet.

He who would reap well must sow well.

Health is better than wealth.

Health is great riches.

Hedges have eyes and walls have ears.

He'll find some hole to creep out at.

Hell is paved with good intentions.

High buildings have a low foundation.

High places have their precipices.

Hit the nail on the head.

Honest millers have golden thumbs.

Honesty is the best policy.

Honey in the mouth saves the purse.

Honey is sweet, but the bee stings.

Hope is a good breakfast, but a bad supper

Hungry horses make a clean manger.

I

I smell a rat.

If madness were pain, you'd hear outcries in every house.

If the cap fit, wear it.

If the devil catch a man idle, he'll set him at work.

If wishes were butter cakes, beggars might bite.

If wishes were horses, beggars would ride.

Ill got, ill spent.

Ill news travels fast.

Ill sowers make ill harvest.

In every country the sun riseth in the morning.

In fair weather prepare for foul.

In the deepest water is the best fishing.

Innocence itself sometimes hath need of a mask.

It is a fortunate head that never ached.

It is a good dog that can catch anything.

It is a great pleasure to eat and have nothing to pay.

It is a sad house where the hen crows louder than the cock.

It is a silly fish that is caught twice with the same bait.

It is a silly game where nobody wins.

It is a silly goose that comes to a fox's sermon.

It is a silly horse that can neither whinny nor wag his tail.

It is an ill dog that deserves not a crust.

It is an ill wind that blows nobody good.

It is better to be a beggar than a fool.

It is better to be stung by a nettle than pricked by a rose.

It is better to sit with a wise man in prison than with a fool in paradise.

It is easier to descend than ascend.

It is easier to pull down than to build.

It is easier to bowl down hill.

It is good to be sure.

It is hard for an empty bag to stand upright.

It is never too late to learn.

It is never too late to mend.

1057 - It is sooner said than done.

It is the bridle and spur that make a good horse.

1021 - It never rains but it pours.

It's not good to wake a sleeping lion.

It's not how long, but how well we live.

## J

Jack of all trades is of no trade.

Jack-of-all-trades and master of none.

Judge of the tree by its fruit.

Judge not of a ship as she lieth on the stocks.

Judge not of men or things at first sight.

## K

Keep a thing seven years and you will find a use for it.

Keep good company and you shall be of the number.

Keep the wolf from the door.

Keep your tongue within your teeth.

Kill two birds with one stone.

Kings have long arms and have many eyes and ears.

Kissing goes by favor.

Knowledge in youth is wisdom in age.

Knowledge is no burden.

Knowledge is power.

Knowledge, without practice, makes but half an artist

## L

Lads will be men.

Large trees give more shade than fruit.

Lay the saddle upon the right horse.

Lazy folks take the most pains.

Lean not on a reed.

Learning is the eye of the mind.

Learning makes a man fit company for himself.

Learn to creep before you run.

Least said is soonest mended.

Let bygones be bygones.

Let every man praise the bridge he goes over.

Let every tub stand on its own bottom.

Let him that earns the bread eat it.

Let not your tongue cut your throat.

Let the best horse leap the hedge first.  
Let the cobbler stick to his last.  
Let them laugh that win.  
Let us make hay while the sun shines.  
Liars have short wings.  
Life is short, yet sweet.  
Light gains make a heavy purse.  
Like author like book.  
Like likes like.  
Like the cow that gives a good pail of milk  
and then kicks it over.  
Lips, however rosy, must be fed.  
Listen at the key-hole and you'll hear news  
of yourself.  
Listeners hear no good of themselves.  
Little and often fills the purse.  
Little boats must keep the shore.  
Little birds may pick a dead lion.  
Little dogs start the hare, but great ones  
catch it.  
Little pigeons carry great messages.  
Little pitchers have great ears.  
Little sticks kindle a fire, but great ones  
put it out.  
Little strokes fell great oaks.  
Live and let live.  
Live not to eat, but eat to live.  
Long looked-for comes at last.  
Look before you leap, for snakes among  
sweet flowers do creep.  
Look not a gift horse in the mouth.  
Lookers-on see more than players.  
Lose a leg rather than life.  
Love can neither be bought nor sold; its only  
price is love.  
Love comes in at the windows and goes out  
at the doors.  
Love does much, but money does more.  
Love is blind.  
Love laughs at locksmiths.  
Love lives in cottages as well as in courts.  
Lovers ever run before the clock.  
Lucky men need no counsel.

## M

Maids want nothing but husbands, and when  
they have them they want everything.  
Maidens must be seen and not heard.  
Make hay while the sun shines.  
Make yourself all honey and the flies will  
devour you.  
Man's life is filed by his foe.  
Manners and money make a gentleman.  
Manners make the man.  
Manners often make fortunes.  
Many can pick the cards that cannot play.  
Many come to bring their clothes to church  
rather than themselves.  
Many dogs soon eat up a horse.  
Many drops of water will sink a ship.  
Many things fall between the cup and the  
lip.

Many women, many words.  
Many words hurt more than swords.  
Many words will not fill a bushel.  
Medicines are not meant to live on.  
Men are not to be measured by inches.  
Men shut their doors against a setting sun.  
Mice care not to play with kittens.  
Mills will not grind if you give them no water.  
Misfortunes make us wise.  
Misfortunes tell us what fortune is.  
Money begets money.  
Money is ace of trumps.  
Money is often lost for want of money.  
Money is the best bait to fish for man with.  
Money is the God of the world.  
Money is welcome though it comes in a dirty clout.  
Money is wise; it knows its own way.  
Money makes marriages.  
Money makes the mare go.  
Money talks.  
More die by food than famine.  
More than enough is too much.  
More haste, worst speed.  
Much coin, much care.  
Muffled cats are not good mousers.  
Murder will out.  
Music helps not the toothache.

N

Nature draws more than ten oxen.  
Necessity hath no law.  
Necessity is coal black.  
Necessity makes war to be just.  
Necessity sharpens industry.  
Neither beg of him who has been a beggar nor serve him who has been a servant.  
Never ask pardon before you are accused.  
Never buy a pig in a poke.  
Never cross a bridge until you come to it.  
Never fish in troubled waters.  
Never judge from appearances.  
Never leave that till to-morrow which you can do to-day.  
Never look a gift horse in the mouth.  
Never praise a ford till you are over.  
Never refuse a good offer.  
Never ride a free horse to death.  
Never rub your eye with your elbow.  
Never too old to learn.  
Never tread on a sore toe.  
Never venture out of your depth till you can swim.  
New brooms sweep clean.  
New dishes beget new appetities.  
Nine tailors make a man.  
No cross, no crown.  
No fence against gold.  
No fence against ill fortune.  
No flying without wings.



No fool like an old fool.  
No gains without pains.  
No garden without its weeds.  
No good building without a good foundation.  
No great loss, but some small profit.  
No lock will hold against the power of gold.  
No pains, no gains.  
No rose without a thorn.  
No smoke without some fire.  
No sooner said than done.  
No sunshine but hath some shadow.  
None but the brave deserves the fair.  
None can be wise and safe, but he that is honest.  
None so blind as those who won't see.  
None so deaf as those who won't hear.  
Nothing dries sooner than tears.  
Nothing so bad as not to be good for something.  
Nothing venture, nothing have.  
Now the thief is out of sight the police have come to light.

O

Of two evils, choose the least.  
Of two evils, the less is always to be chosen.  
Office without pay makes thieves.  
Oil and truth will get uppermost at last.  
Old bees yield no honey.  
Old birds are caught with chaff.  
Old dogs bark not for nothing.  
Old foxes want no tutors.  
Old men are twice children.  
Old men go to death, but death comes to young men.  
Old sacks want much patching.  
Old sores are hardly cured.  
On a good bargain think twice.  
Once shot you cannot stop the arrow.  
One cloud is enough to eclipse all the sun.  
One day of pleasure is worth two of sorrow.  
One fool makes many.  
One good turn deserves another.  
One hair of a woman draws more than a team of oxen.  
One half the world knows not how the other half lives.  
One has the grain, another the teeth.  
One hand may wash the other, but both the face.  
One may buy gold too dear.  
One may live and learn.  
One may think what he dare not speak.  
One murder makes a villain, millions a hero.  
One sheep follows another.  
One story is good till another is told.  
One tongue is enough for a woman.  
One tongue is enough for two women.  
Open confession is good for the soul.  
Opportunity is the cream of time.  
Opportunity makes the thief.  
Out of the frying pan into the fire.

P

Paddle your own canoe.  
Pain is forgotten where gain comes.  
Pain past is pleasure.  
Patience is a flower that grows not in every garden.  
Patience is a plaster for all sores.  
Pay as you go.  
Pen and ink is wit's plow.  
Penny wise and pound foolish.  
Pigs fly in the air with their tails forward.  
Pin your faith on another's sleeve.  
Pitchers have ears.  
Practice makes perfect.  
Practise what you preach.  
Praise not the ford till you are safe over.  
Prevention is better than cure.  
Prosperity lets go the bridle.  
Proud as a peacock, all strut and show.  
Punctuality is the soul of business.  
Put not thy hand between the bark and the tree.  
Put your shoulder to the wheel.

R

Raw leather will stretch.  
Ready money is ready medicine.  
Ready money will away.  
Reason binds the man.  
Riches, like manure, do no good till they are spread.  
Rolling stones gather no moss.  
Roses have thorns.

S

Seek your salve where you get your sore.  
Self praise is no recommendation.  
Set a beggar on horseback and he'll ride to the devil.  
Set the saddle on the right horse.  
She will stay at home, perhaps, if her leg be broke.  
Sink or swim.  
Smooth waters run deep.  
Soft words break no bones.  
Sometimes it is better to give your apple away than to eat it yourself.  
Spare the rod and spoil the child.  
Spears are not made of bulrushes.  
Stars are not seen by sunshine.  
Still waters are the deepest.  
Straight trees have crooked roots.  
Strike while the iron is hot.  
Surgeons should have an eagle's eye, a lion's heart and a lady's hand.

T

Take time by the forelock.  
Take time when time is, for time will away.

That fish will soon be caught that nibbles at every bait.

That which will not be butter must be made into cheese.

The bait hides the hook.

The best colt needs breaking.

The best fish swim near the bottom.

The biggest horses are not the best travelers.

The cat in gloves catches no mice.

The cat invites the mouse to a feast.

The cat loves fish, but she's loth to wet her feet.

The clock goes as it pleases the clerk.

The cobbler's wife is the worst shod.

The cock crows and the hen goes.

The corruption of the best produces the worst.

The cow gives good milk, but kicks over the pail.

The early bird catches the worm.

The eyes serve for ears to the deaf.

The fairest looking shoe may pinch the foot.

The fairest rose at last is withered.

The finest shoe often hurts the foot.

The foremost dog catches the hare.

The frog cannot out of her bog.

The full moon brings fair weather.

The grave is the general meeting place.

The greatest barkers are not the greatest biters.

The half is better than the whole.

The highest branch is not the safest roost.

The highest tree hath the greatest fall.

The hungry man is not satisfied with looking in the full man's face.

The law knows no man.

The mad dog bites his master.

The moon does not heed the barking of the dogs.

The moon's not seen where the sun shines.

The nearer the bone the sweeter the flesh.

The pen is the tongue of the mind.

The pitcher doth not go so often to the water, but it comes home broken at last.

The proof of a pudding is in the eating.

The shoemaker ill shod; the tailor ill clad.

The sleeping fox catches no poultry.

The smiles of a pretty woman are the tears of the purse.

The race is won by running.

The worst spoke in a cart breaks first.

There are none so deaf as those that won't hear.

There came nothing out of the sack but what was in it.

There is a remedy for everything, could we but hit upon it.

There is a snake in the grass.

There is no fire without some smoke.

There is no hair so small but hath its shadow.

There's many a slip 'twixt the cup and the lip.

They both put their hands in one glove.

Three removes are as bad as a fire.

To make meat out of bones.  
 To play fast and lose.  
 To swim a river with a bridge close by.  
 To throw an old shoe after one.  
 Try the ice before you venture upon it.  
 Two blacks make no white.  
 Two eyes seldom see more than one.  
 Two of a trade seldom agree.

U

Ugly women finely dressed are the uglier for it.  
 Unkindness has no remedy at law.  
 Unreasonable silence is folly.  
 Use makes perfectness.  
 Use soft words and hard arguments.

V

Vanity will prove vexation.  
 Varnishing hides a crack.  
 Venture a small fish to catch a great one.  
 Venture not all in one bottom.  
 Vice makes virtue shine.  
 Virtue and happiness are mother and daughter.  
 Virtues all agree, but vices fight one another.  
 Virtue is a jewel of great price.  
 Vows made in storms are forgotten in calms.

W

Walls have ears.  
 Want is the mother of industry.  
 Wars bring scars.  
 We know not which stone the scorpion lurks under.  
 We never miss the water till the well runs dry.  
 We ought to weigh well what we can only once decide.  
 We see not what is in the wallet behind.  
 Wealth and content do not always live together.  
 Well begun is half done.  
 Well lathered is half shaven.  
 What cannot be cured must be endured.  
 What is every man's business is no man's business.  
 What is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander.  
 What the good wife spares the cat eats.  
 When Greek meets Greek then comes the tug of war.  
 When gold speaks you may hold your tongue.  
 When sorrow is asleep, wake it not.  
 When the cat is away the mice will play.  
 When the iron is hot it's time to strike.  
 Where the needle goes the thread follows.  
 When the well is dry we know the worth of water.



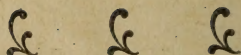
Where bees are there is honey.  
Where reason rules appetite obeys.  
Where there are reeds there is water.  
Where there's smoke there's fire.  
Where you cannot climb over you must  
creep under.  
Who hath aching teeth have ill tenants.  
Wit and wisdom are rarely seen together.  
Without pains no gains.  
Wrinkled purses make wrinkled faces.

Y

You cannot drive a windmill with a pair of  
bellows.  
You can't judge of the horse by the harness.  
You may break a colt but not an old horse.  
You may lead a horse to water but you can-  
not make him drink.  
Your looking-glass will tell you what none  
of your friends will.

Z

Zeal is fit only for wise men but is found  
mostly in fools.  
Zeal without knowledge is fire without light.  
Zeal without knowledge is frenzy.  
Zeal without knowledge is the sister of folly.



# RULES GOVERNING THE PROVERB CONTEST

The **TORONTO WORLD'S PROVERB CONTEST** is a test of skill and diligence, and consists of a series of seventy-five illustrations, each representing popular and well-known proverbs. One picture is published each day in The Daily **WORLD** and one each week in The **SUNDAY WORLD**.

The Proverb Contest is open to all readers of The Daily and Sunday World in Canada, except employes of The Daily and Sunday World and members of their families. Anyone not excepted as above mentioned may enter the contest by simply becoming a regular reader of The Toronto Daily and Sunday World.

Contestants must write the Proverbs represented by the illustration upon the coupon provided therefor, and which will appear on Page 2 of The Daily and Sunday World every day during the Contest. Answers may be written with pen, pencil, or typewriter, and arranged in any manner to suit the contestant.

Each picture represents only one proverb. Where contestants are not certain as to the correct proverb represented, they will be permitted to send five (5) answers (not more) to each proverb illustration. If the correct answer is given, incorrect answers will not count against a contestant.

Only one answer may be written upon a single coupon. Extra coupons must be used for additional answers, and all coupons of the same number must be kept together in making up the set.

Different members of a family may compete in the contest, but only one prize will be awarded to any one family or household, and only one set of answers will be accepted from any individual contestant.

Answers must not be sent in until the last proverb illustration has been printed. After the last picture has been printed, contestants must arrange their coupons in numerical order, fasten them securely together and deliver or mail them in a neat, flat package (not folded or rolled) plainly addressed to the **Contest Manager, The Toronto World, Toronto, Canada**, within the time specified in following paragraph.

The time of receiving answers will have no effect upon the awarding of the prizes with this exception: All answers must be delivered at the Office of The Toronto World or bear postmark of mailing of not later than midnight, **December 28, 1912**, twelve days after the close of the contest.

The prizes will be awarded to Toronto Daily and Sunday World readers sending in the correct or nearest correct set of answers to the entire series of seventy-five (75) Proverb Illustrations.

In the event of a tie between two (2) or more persons, the contestant sending in the nearest correct list of answers with the least number of coupons will be declared the winner. Where two (2) or more contestants submit the same number of correct answers upon the same number of coupons the value of the prize or prizes thus tied for will be equally divided among those tying.

In making the awards, the judging committee, whose names will be announced in due course, will take into account the similarity and exact wording of the proverb answers as selected by the Contest Manager and three representatives of The Daily and Sunday World, and as contained in The Toronto World's Book of English Proverbs: spelling, wording, punctuation, and the correct construction of the proverbs are the essentials that will be graded.

Where a set of answers is securely fastened together the contestant will be permitted to stamp (with rubber stamp) or abbreviate his or her name on the space allotted for same, and omit the full address from the greater majority of the blanks **PROVIDED THAT SUCH FULL NAME AND FULL POST-OFFICE ADDRESS** is plainly and distinctly written upon the **FIRST SIX and LAST SIX BLANKS** of the set.

In sending in the answers at the close of the contest, it is important that contestants seal all packages containing answers, and if mailed, contestants should exercise great care to see that postage is fully prepaid at the rate, one cent per ounce, or fraction thereof, in Toronto, and two (2) cents per ounce, or fraction thereof, outside of Toronto, as The Toronto World is not bound to pay postage due on any set of answers.

All communications or letters of inquiry concerning the Proverb Contest must be addressed to the **Contest Manager, Toronto World, Toronto, Canada**.



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